ich urges Indian

lend support to the

Shankar Dayal

## survive n mine

AFP) - Rescue rday saved two nts trapped for a disused mine or drink, Polish ported. It said ; in a state of istion when dishad only sur: iking drops of formed on the mineshaft benumidity levels. t missing after tholing expedidown a former near Szklary. oland, accordreport, which only reported 3. 17. They had to make their 20-metre deep ause of fault hen they were y they were extreme exbody temperallen to 35 de-(95 degrees the television

octors at the

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ound cell. it

## EU team due here next week

'PARIS (Petra) — A European Union (EU) delegation will start a mar of the region next week to get familiarised with developments in the Middle East peace process and Europe's role in supporting it according to a French foreign ministry official. The official said the delegation would seek in its tour of Jordan, Syria, Egypt, Israel and the Palestinian self-rule areas to assert Europe's role in the region and its readiness to support the peace process. The official said the Washington Declaration ending the state of belligerency between Jordan and Israel "cmanates from a realistic approach" and understanding of the new international facts as well as the desire of both parties to achieve peace." The EU delegation will desire of both parties to achieve peace." The EU delegation will include the foreign ministers of Germany, France and Greece.



جوردان تليمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية ءالرايء

CASABLANCA (R) - Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin still treats Yasser Arafat as an enemy instead of a partner, an Arafat adviser said on Monday. "The head of the Israeli government continues to behave with Mr. Yasser Arafat as if he were an enemy and not as a partner in a political operation," said Dr. Ahmed Tibi, in Morocco leading a Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) delegation for talks with Israeli officials. The two sades meeting in Casablanca since last Tuesday moved on Monday to the southern city of Marrakesh to continue talks on Jewish settlements and the future status of Jerusalem. "Rabin's behaviour has restricted of the structure of the and the nature status of Jerusaiem. "Radin's behaviour has negative effects on the atmosphere surrounding the peace operation and the chances of success," Dr. Tibi told Reuters. He did not elaborate. Dr. Tibi haifed the behind-the-scenes role played by King Hassan of Morocco in promoting contacts between larael and the PLO. He said the king was "a pioneer of political nationalism in the region and has an important role to play in the next stages of

Tibi: Rabin treats Arafat as enemy

Volume 18 Number 5695

AMMAN TUESDAY, AUGUST 23, 1994, RABI' ALAWAL 16, 1415

Price: Jordan 150 File

#### Israel hits German ties with iran

BONN (AP) -- Israel's foreign minister on Monday chided Germany for its policy of grooming a friendship with Han, saying it was mistaken and would not steer Tehran away from "terrorism." In Bonn for a three-day visit, Shimon Peres said the world should isolate Iran because of attacks like the July 18 bombing in Buenos Aires, Argenti-na that killed 95 people. "Iran carries a great deal of responsibility for acts of terfor. We would like to see the whole world come together to impress the Iranians to stop financing organisations of terror and violence," Mr. Peres said. With German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel at his side during a news conference, Mr. Peres said Germany's policy of trying to get Iran to mend its ways through a dialogue is not likely to bear fruit. "We feel the controlled dialogue does not lead to the necessary goals. We are afraid this is a dialogue that has a sincerity only on one of its parts, meaning Germany, he said.

#### **Russian Middle East** envoy in Damascus

DAMASCUS (AP) - Russian envoy Viktor Posovaly-nk met Monday with Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa to discuss the latest developments in the Middle East peace process, the statehin news agency said. Mr. Posovalyuk, head of the Russian Foreign Ministry's Afri-ca and Middle East Department, also discussed Syrian ties with Russia. The Syrian-Arab News Agency gave no further details. The Russian emissary arrived Saturday from Lebanon on the second leg of a regional tour. He is also scheduled to visit Jordan and Israel. Mr. Posovalyuk last visited Damascus in July,

#### oeace talks. Bomb kills child. wounds 13 in iraq

seeking to persuade the Sy-

tians to resume direct peace

talks with Israel and end their

boycott of the multilateral

track of the Middle East

NICOSIA (AFP) - A carbomb went off near the offices of the Iraqi govern-ment newspaper in Baghdad on Monday, killing a child and wounding 13 other peo-ple, the official Iraqi News Agency reported. The bomb of the newspaper, Al imhuriya, but wrecked five bouses and a large number of vehicles. The agency blamed the attack on "agents of liaq's enemies." The last carbomb explosion in Baghdad wounded two people on Oct.

#### Inter-Kurdish **Clashes** reported

NiCOSIA (AP) — Heavy lighting between rival fac-tions in the self-governing audish enclave in northern iraq erupted at the weekend, Tehran Radio reported Mouday. But Kurdish officials said there were only minor kirmishes that had been muffed out. The Iranian radio's Arabic-language service reported heavy casualties in weekend clashes trigsered by an attack by the atriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) Saturday on the Kurustan Democratic Party (KDP) and its allies of the Slamic Party of Kurdistan in Qala Diza near the Iranian

## Ambushed car

returned to U.N. KUWAIT (AP) — A U.N. Patrol car ambushed 10 days go on the Iraqi side of the demilitarised zone along Kuwait's northern border has been recovered, a U.N. spokesman reported Monday. Abdul Latif Kabbaj of the U.N. Iraq-Kuwait Observatrion Mission told the Associated Press the fourwheel-drive vehicle was found Monday by Iraqi troops near Jabai Sanam, about 30 kilometres west of the unbush site." "All the parts had been removed," Mr.

# Jordan-PLO talks end on upbeat note

Committee set up to achieve coordination

## 'Liberation of Jerusalem is common goal'

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - At the end of two days of meetings, Jorda-nian and Palestinian delegates appeared ready to put months of uneasy relations behind them and look forward to more practical and coordinated steps especially vis-a-vis their negotiations with Israel. But it was equally apparent that the visiting Palestinian delegation, albeit senior level, did not have a mandate to conclude agreements with Jordan, including a pending economic pact.

But despite the fact the two sides did not announce any new agreement between them or set a date for a meeting between Palestinian President Yasser Arafat and His Majesty King Hussein, officials from both sides stressed that this round of talks between the two sides was different from the ones that had preceded it.

"It is different because the Palestinian (National) Authority (PNA) is now playing its role on the ground and this helps in discussing matters in a practical spirit and handling issues in a direct manner, the Palestinian information and culture minister, Yasser Abed Rabbo, told reporters at the end of the meetings.

Combined agency dispatches

ISRAEL CANNOT accept

demands for quick recogni-tion of a Palestinian state,

and a formula for permanent

peace in the Middle East

remains elusive, Israeli De-

puty Foreign Minister Yossi

"Nobody in Israel will

accept such a demand before

negotiations start," Mr.

Beilin told a news briefing in

Palestine Liberation Orga-

nisation (PLO) leader Yasser

Arafat's Fatch group said on

Sunday it would insist that

Israel recognise a Palestinian

state if it wants the PLO to

remove clauses in its charter

calling for the destruction of

But in Cairo, Palestinian

officials denied on Monday

that Fatch was seeking such

an Israeli recognition as a

decision." chief PLO nego-

tiator Nabil Shaath told re-

There has been no such

precondition.

porters in Cairo.

Beilin said on Monday.

Jawad Al Anani also said that the two sides realise that there were "common issues between the two sides" and that it had become a "reality and a fact on the ground that there is a need to coordinate, especially that the dynamics of the peace process are moving quickly and are affecting

Therefore, it is necessary for us to continuously study the common issues especially those that touch the lives of people, their movement and their relations," Dr. Anani

the positions of the two

"The two sides showed a high level of concern and responsibility to ensure that a continuous mechanism is in place to discuss the different issues with an eye to the quick changes on the ground," Dr. Anani said.

Reading from a prepared joint statement, Dr. Anani said the two sides were scheduled to meet again in the first week of September to discuss common issues "and the status of displaced people." He said that a joint committee has been established to "discuss all the common issues which concern both sides.

This joint committee will

Israel: No 'early' recognition

A member of Fateh's cen-

tral committee, Sakhr Abu

Nazer, said on Sunday the

decision to link the two issues

had been taken on Saturday

night at a meeting in Tunis

Mr. Arafat, whose Fateh

group is the largest inside the

PLO, undertook in a letter to

Israeli Prime Minister Yit-

zhak Rabin at the time of last

year's self-rule deal to amend

those articles of the charter

denying Israel's right to exist.

There has been absolutely no

decision taken by Fateh or by

the PLO leadership to take

any new precondition." Dr.

Shaath told reporters in

official Faisal Al Husseini

said no such decision had

been taken by Fateh but he

added such a move could not

"It is his (Abu Nizar's)

be ruled out in the future.

personal opinion and his con-

viction but Fateh's decision

would be decided by meet-

ings of the Central Commit-

In Jerusalem, leading PLO

Cairo.

'Let me be very clear.

chaired by Mr. Arafat.

of a Palestinian state

Information Minister have the jurisdiction to form lawad Al Anani also said that sub-committees which will be assigned specified subjects to deliberate and "provide the joint committee with recommendations."

The two sides will each prepare a position paper on the status of displaced people ahead of their September meeting during which the two sides will work to arrive at a joint paper representing a common negotiating position on the fate of the displaced

Jordanian officials said privately that they were "satisfied" with their two-day meetings with the Palestinians although one official indicated that the Palestinian team "did not have a mandate" to conclude agreements with Jordan.

The Palestinian team. however, appeared to be ready to meet Jordan halfway on a number of issues but more importantly on the controversy over the Holy City of Jerusalem and a \$30 million trade agreement between Jordan and Israel that would allow the Kingdom to export consumer goods to the occupied territories which are still outside the jurisdiction of the self-rule authority.

(Continued on page 7)

tee and Revolutionary Coun-

cil with the attendance of all

their members," Mr. Hus-

seini, who attended Satur-

In Copenhagen, Mr. Beilin

stressed that under the Mid-

dle East peace process Israel

and the Palestinians are not

to discuss a Palestinian state

until talks on the final status

of occupied territories begin

after two years of self-rule -

permanent peace arrange-

ment between Israel and the

Palestinians is May 1999.

formula (for peace)," said

Mr. Beilin, one of the architects of the deal giving

the Palestinians aself-rule in

Mr. Beilin said he believed

the most realistic formula for

peace was an Israeli withdrawal from "most of the occupied territories" and a

confederation between Jor-

dan and a Palestinian state

Gaza and Jericho.

We have a date but no

The target date for a

day's meeting, said.

in May 1996.

MAKESHIFT SERVICES: Children are weighed at a makeshift hospital at the "Inera" refugee camp, 35 kilometres north of Bukavu. Settled by Caritas, this camp is

providing aid to 15,000 Rwandan refugees who left their country for fear of hypothetical reprisals by the Rwandan Patriotic Front (see page 12) (AFP photo)

# .44 killed air crash

RABAT (Agencies) — A Royal Air Maroc passenger plane crashed shortly after takeoff Sunday evening, killing all 44 people aboard, the airline said

The ATR-42 aircraft was on a flight from the southern city of Agadir to Casablanca when it crashed about 35 kilometres north of Agadir. All 40 passengers, including a baby, and the four-mem crew were killed when it fell to earth 10 minutes after taking off.

Sixteen of the dead were foreigners, including eight Italian tourists, three or four Frenchmen and an American, according to the state-

The victims included a Kuwaiti prince identified as 38-year-old Ali Al Mahmoud Al Jabir Al Sabah, brother of Kuwaiti Defence Minister Sheikh Ahmad Al Mahmoud Al Jabir Al Sabah, and his wife, it said.

It was not immediately known what caused the accident, which occurred around 7:00 p.m. (1900 GMT) at Douar Izounine, authorities said,

"It's too soon to talk about the cause of this catastrophe," said an airline spokesman who asked not to be identified by name. "The weather apparently posed no problem at the moment of the accident.

The plane "left in midafternoon from Casablanca to Agadir, where it made a stopover before leaving at 6:43 p.m. (1843 GMT)," Moroccan Civil Aviation Director Mohammad Mouffid told the radio network Europe-1.

"Ten minutes later, the crew sent out a distress sig-nal," Mr. Mouffid said. "A search team was sent out and the wreckage found around 8:30 p.m. (2030 GMT). Unfortunately none of the 44 people on board survived. Transport Minister Rachid Al Rhezouani travelled to the

crash zone. The plane was one of three ATR-42s acquired by Royal Air Maroc in 1989, said the airline's president, Mohammad Mekouar.

accident site to inspect the

The last major accident of a passenger plane in Morocco was in 1975 when a Jordanian Boeing 707 crashed near Agadir, killing 188 people. In 1970 a Caravelle aircraft belonging to RAM crashed south of Casablanca, killing

Franco-Italian consortium Avions de Transport Regional (ATR) said on Monday it was sending a team of five experts to Morocco following Sunday's crash.

## Syria rejected Israeli offer in Morocco to quit Lebanon, Rabin says

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Syria rebuffed an Israeli offer to withdraw from Lebanon within nine months, insisting there had to be a comprehensive peace deal, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said in an interview published

Mr. Rabin told the London-based Arabic daily Al Hayat that the offer to quit Israel's self-declared "security zone" in southern Lebanon within nine months had assed to Lebanon by U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher.

But Syria, the key power broker in Lebanon, had "warned Christopher that talks with Lebanon and any settlement must be linked to the negotiations and settlement with Syria," Mr. Rabin told the paper, which is printed here.

Lebanese Foreign Minister Fares Bouez said Monday the Israeli offer "contains traps and is vague.

Syria, which has 35,000 troops in Lebanon, insists that any peace deal with Israel must include a pledge to withdraw from the Golan Heights and all Arab territories, including southern

Mr. Rabin said a Syrian

demand for Israel to withdraw from the Golan within several months "is impossible to achieve," saying it would

take vears. Israel seized the plateau in 1967 and "annexed" it in

Mr. Bouez told AFP Mr. Rabin's offer as reported by Al Hayat was "imprecise. "Israel has spoken of a withdrawal plan but its proposal conceals a number of traps and has grey areas.

He said the offer was aimed at ending resistance to the Israeli occupation of South Lebanon and "putting the Lebanese government to the test for a few months" to see how it dealt with the resistance before negotiations on a withdrawal began. Mr. Bouez said the Israeli

ification and could not be described as positive. Mr. Rabin told Al Havat that Mr. Christopher's peace efforts had "not yet managed

offer required extensive clar-

to reach a preliminary accord on the essential issues." He hoped that an accord would be reached before the next Israeli general elections to be held in 1996.

Mr. Rabin added Christopher would return in the second half of September on

cause "Syria refuses any other form of negotiations. Israel's chief policy coordi-

nator for Lebanon said on Monday that progress in stal-led Lebanese-Israeli peace talks may be only a few weeks away.

"We believe that the time is not too distant, maybe weeks, when there will be progress, and progress to peace is always a good thing," Uri Lubrani told reporters in Israel's occupation zone in South Lebanon.

You have seen what has happened on the Jordanian track and I hope that we shall make similar progress on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks," Mr. Lubrani added.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Jordan have signed initial agreements with the Jewish state.

Mr. Bonez said last week that a breakthrough in talks with Israel was possible in the next few months. Mr. Lubrani said Lebanon would not "pay a price" to

reach agreement with Israel but he reneated Israel's conditions for peace.
"No 1, that all those

forces... those terrorist forces

(Continued on page 7)

## Israel, PLO work hard on next phase of self-rule

CAIRO (Agencies) — Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) pledged to work round the clock to reach an accord by Wednesday on extending civilian powers to Palestinians in the rest of the West Bank in talks which opened here Monday.

PLO chief negotiator Nabil Shaath toid journalists the delegations were determined to meet their target date and complete the talks on Wednesday even if it meant working through the night.

"We are going to finish this agreement on early empowerment," Dr. Shaath

"We had agreed in Alexandria that we conclude this week so we are staying here day and night," Dr. Shaath added, referring to talks last week in the Egyptian port

"I am optimistic that this is the last session," added his

Israeli counterpart General Danny Rothschild. Gen. Rothschild said one or two more days may be needed to draft an accord but that it could be initialled on

It will mark a second phase in Palestinian self-rule launched in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho with the signing of

the May 4 accord in Cairo. The transfer of powers is due to be followed by a redeployment of Israeli forces away from heavily-populated Palestinian areas on the West Bank.

council to govern Gaza and Jericho are also to be held. fer of powers in education started Sunday and would be completed in time for the

start of the new school year on Sept. 1. care, social welfare and tourism as well as the budget and taxation have still to be final-

Elections to an autonomy Dr. Shaath said the trans-

Agreements on health

The other powers should be transferred in the two weeks following the clinching of an accord on early

empowerment, Dr. Shaath

But he accused Israel of "manocuvring" over the date for elections to the autonomy council, which the Palestimians have set for Dec. 15. According to the Palesti-nians, Israel has set as a

condition for elections the scrapping of clauses in the PLO charter calling for the destruction of the Jewish Dr. Sheath said it would be

"better" for the Palestinians to amend the PLO charter after the elections. Last Thursday Israel set

the first date for handing over powers to Palestinians in the still-occupied West Bank. saying it would transfer education to their control by the start of the school year on Sept. 1.

Education is the first of five spheres of authority being transferred to expand Palestinian powers to the West Bank beyond Jericho and the Gaza Strip, handed over in May.

## Blockade is on its way out, but problems loom in Jeddah

By P.V. Vivekanand Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — As Jordan is heaving a sigh of relief that the four-year-old de facto blockade of the port of Aqaba is ending this week, another serious problem has cropped up - self-assumed Saudi inspections of Jordan-

bound cargo.

More than 500 containers destined for Aqaba unloaded at the Saudi port of Jeddah have been stuck there some for as long as two weeks

after Saudi authorities ordered all of them opened and inspected but left no clear instructions on their fate, shipping sources and businessmen said.

The containers, all of them destined for the Jordanian market and none containing any material that could be suspected as violating the international sanctions against Iraq, were unloaded from four ships for routine transhipment to Aqaba through feeder vessels, they said.

They explained that it was the usual practice of many shipping lines to unload Jordan-bound containers at Jeddah for transhipment to Agaba so that the vessels did not have to face the difficulties posed by the offshore ctions carried out by the U.S.-led warships enforcing

the international sanctions

against Iraq. In turn, Jordanian importers arranged for the transhipment of the containers aboard smaller vessels which could meet the guidelines set by the inspectors such as cargo accessibility and stowage requirements, said the sources, speaking on condi-

tion of anonymity. Saudi authorities used to pose problems, on and off for Jordan-bound shipments and Jordanian officials and shipping agents did not make an issue of such practices because they did not want to "do anything to undermine Saudi-Jordanian relations,"

That was a reference to the strain in ties dating back to the Gulf crisis sparked by the August 1990 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, Repeated Jordanian efforts to explain the Kingdom's stand against a military solution to end the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait and Jordan's quest to normalise relations with Saudi Arabia have not been very success-

"However, 10 days ago, Jeddah port authorities suddenly ordered all concerned shipping agents at Jeddah to open all Aqaba-bound containers at the port for inspections," said the source.

"There were no written instructions, and inspections were carried out in hapha-

zard manner. "But no clear instructions were left after the inspections on whether the cargo was cleared for transhipment. said the source. "As such. shipping agents at Jeddah are at a loss over how to proceed

According to the sources. none of the shipments inspected by the Saudis was found to contain goods in violation of the sanctions against Iraq and therefore there is no justifiable reason for the non-issuance of clearance orders by the Jeddah port authorities.

The containers were unloaded at Aqaba from four ships operated by six European lines, the source said. The embassies of the concerned countries have been notified of the problem and

ing," said the source. Jordan has also sought American help to convince Saudi authorities to release the shipments, businessmen said. The precise status of American intervention, if any, was not immediately known, but two small feeder ships were cleared to proceed

diplomatic wheels are turn-

(Continued on page 7)

Turkey, Iran and Syria on Sunday reasserted their determination to oppose any disintegration of their neighbour, Iraq and expressed concerns for Kurdish attempts to gain greater autonomy in the region.

The countries foreign ministers, Mumtaz Soysal of Turkey, Ali Akbar Velayati of Iran and Farouk Al Sharaa of Syria, issued the statement after a day of talks.

They affirmed the "utmost "nortance" their governments attached to the prever tion of the unity and territorial integrity of Iraq.

They also reiterated their rejection of statements and activities of commin groups in some Wes ... cou. ries aiming and encouraging servaratism." said the statement.

Some 17 million Kurds live in Turkey, Iran, Syria and the three governments have been wary of the U.N.-backed experiment in Kurdish autonomy which followed the 1991 Gulf war.

The Iraqi Kurdish enclave is protected by U.N. guards and U.S., British and French warplanes based in Turkey.

Full statehood for the three million Kurds in northern Iraq could encourage their brethren elsewhere to push for greater self-rule or inde-

At their last meeting February in Ankara, Mr. Sharaa, Mr. Velayati and their former Turkish counterpart, Hikmet Cetin, opposed any division of Iraq.

The three states meet regularly to discuss regional issues and set their next gathering for December in

Before beginning their

talks Sunday, Mr. Soysal told reporters that all three governments wanted to see a halt to the inter-Kurdish strife that has beset the autonomous Kurdish enclave in northern Iraq and reportedly left scores dead.

Several attempts at a ceasefire in recent months have apparently failed to end

"We have a common interest: the ending of this fighting," said Mr. Soysal.

He added that "our approach to the ending of this fighting is different from the approach of others," he said, without elaborating.

In a news conference after the talks, Mr. Velayati said no "practical measures" had been yet taken by the three countries to curb activities on

The Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) in Tehran and Sunday's meeting "yould not mean any in-terference" in Iraq's internal

The ministers also condemned acts of terrorism against their countries and agreed to continue their contacts to help maintain security and stability in the volatile

After the news conference, President Hafez Al Assad separately met briefly with Mr. Velayati and Mr. Soysal.

The ministers did not mention Ankara's intensification of a bloody crackdown on the Kurdish Labour Party (PKK), which Turkish diplomats earlier had said would

be high on the agenda.
PKK guerrillas have been fighting for autonomy in southeastern Turkey for 10 years. An estimated 10,000 people have died in the upris-

Syria and Turkey had signed a security agreement in which Damascus pledged to prevent the (PKK) from using its land to launch attacks against Turkey. Two PKK bases in Syrian-controlled Bases Valley in

Lebanon were closed following the signing of the agree-

Mr. Soysal in the joint news conference with Mr. Sharaa and Mr. Velayati, said Turkey was holding contacts with Baghdad.

"The talks are held within the framework of efforts to normalise ties among countries of the region. We are informing our neighbours about these contacts. We will also inform Iraq about the outcome of this meeting," he

The joint statement said Iraq should be able to decide its future without any foreign interference. Iraq has denounced the meetings as interference in its internal

The ministers also urged Iraq to comply with U.N. Gulf war resolutions if it wanted to resume its position in the international commun

The United Nations imposed economic and military sanctions on Iraq after its six-month invasion and occupation of Kuwait which ended in February 1991.

"They (the ministers) urged Iraq to intensify its efforts in that direction and to fully cooperate with the United Nations," the state-

President Assad's talks with Mr. Soysal also focused on water-sharing and security

#### Events included borse races, dances and songs (AFP photo) camel race during the first festival ever held for Palestinian Islamic opposition grows to Palestinian women's U.N. population conference leader

By Eileen Alt Powell The Associated Press

CAIRO - Muslim fundamentalists have stepped up their campaign against next month's U.N. population conference in Cairo, charging that it will encourage homosexuality, premarital sex and abortion. Islamic lawyers are seeking

a court order this week to block the meeting, and a Jordanian federation has urged that Egypt cancel it outright or risk "turmoil and public anger."
The pro-Islamic Al Ahrar

newspaper carried a frontpage headline Sunday characterising the conference as "consolidating American dominance" over family values and urged readers to mail in their objections.

The hardliners are not expected to scuttle the Sept. 5-13 meeting, which planners say will draw more than out the world.

ments.

Mubarak also has tried to assure all sides that no nation will be forced to accept anything that contradicts religious beliefs or traditions.

tive - to curb overpopulagrowth levels to development," Mr. Mubarak told a

bedouins after autonomy in Deir Al Balah in the Gaza Strip.

principles. It stressed three points in

of forms" for families, which it says implies an acceptance of homosexuality.

The call for making sexual advice available to all individuals as counter to Islam's ban on sex outside

Fundamentalist lawyer Abdul Halim Mandour, who has brought the suit seeking to block the meeting, told the Associated Press he believes "the mere discussion of such issues violates public morality and public modesty in violation of the (Egyptian) con-stitution and Islamic law."

Sudanese Islamic leader Abdul Galeel Al Karourz went further, blasting population control proposals as "a Zionist plot" aimed at encouraging population growth in Israel while depressing it among Islamic na-

have begun trying to find a middle ground. Grand Mufti Sheikh

or perverted sex." damentalists on abortion, saying it can be allowed when

the conference's draft agen-

The powerful Al Azhar. the Cairo-based centre of Islamic scholarship for the Arab World, said in a statement earlier this month that the draft agenda "is full of loose expressions" that appear to contradict Islamic

the draft as particularly offensive:

- A mention of "plurality

- References to safe abor-

tion, which Islam accepts only if the mother's life is in

Mohammad Sayed Tantawi, Egypt's chief Islamic official issued a "fatwa," or religious edict, last week saying his review of the U.N. draft "did not find any open call for free He took issue with the fun-

the mother's life is threatened or the pregnancy has been caused by rape or incest. He also would condone abortion in special cases where a family's contracep-tive has failed and they are unable financially to support

# Egypt hangs 5

CAIRO (R) — Egypt, main taining its relentless fight against Muslim militants; hanged five men on Monday for trying to kill laterior Minister Hassan Al Alfi less

A security source said the five men, sentenced last month for the failed bomb attack on General Alfi's motor, cade in central Cairo, were hanged in a Cairo jail on Monday morning.

They were the last group of 15 militants to be hanged in the aftermath of three separate abortive assassination attempts last year against Gen. Alfi, Prime Minister Atef Sedki, and Information Minister Safwat Sherif.

Five men were hanged in May for the bomb attack on Dr. Sedki and five more were hanged in July last year for trying to kill Mr. Sherif. All of them were convicted after swift trials in military courts condemned by human rights

Gen. Alfi narrowiy. escaped death when a bomb planted outside the Interior Ministry exploded just before his motorcade passd, but two militants and three civilians were killed in the blast. ...

The five militants hanged on Monday were charged along with 10 other men with belonging to the outlawed militant group Jihad (holy struggle) — a revival of the group which assassinated President Anwar Sudat in

At their trial, from which foreign journalists were barred, they were convicted on other charges including mudering a suspected mili-tant who broke from their group, and setting off a bomb at a Cairo youth club where police officers were training.

They were also convicted of the murder in February 5 a prosecution witness in f case against militants was tried to kill Dr. Sedki.

The prosecution also added charges of plotting two attempts to kill President Hosni Mubarak, three against Mr. Sherif, two against Gen. Alfi and one against U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali.

More than 400 people have tant-related violence since March 1992, but the government has clamped down with police raids and widespread arrests.

As a result militant groups have been relatively quiet for the last few months after a spate of attacks in March mainly against policemen in the southern province of Assiut — stronghold of the Gama'a Al Islamiyah (Islamic Group).

Since the attacks began more than two years ago, the government has handed over many of the militants for trit to military courts, which have sentenced 56 of them to death. Forty-one have been executed and 15 are still du the run.

The last major attack against a senior official was in April when the Islamic Group claimed responsibility for killing a general who spent 20 years monitoring extremist groups.

The turning point in the government's battle against militants came later that month when police killed Talaat Yassin Hamman, alleged leader of a military wing of the Gama'a.

HIJAZ BAILWAY

TRAIN

## Travellers report Rafah procedures relaxed slightly make a profit," she grumbled

(AFP) — Palestinians returning from Egypt at the Rafah border into Gaza were pleasantly surprised when raelis sent them through passport control, security and customs procedures in only three hours.

Up to now they have been keeping men, women and children for up to a day in crowded, stuffy halis. The change at the weekend

follows intense negotiations between Israeli and Palestinian officials and a promise by Israeli Police Minister Moshe Shahai to increase the number of Israeli employees at Rafah and streamline travel procedures.

But hawkers, who make up a large proportion of the travellers, complained instead of steep customs duties. Many came through with empty suitcases, having left behind their goods to return with more money for clear-

"We were not delayed much by the (Israeli) pass-port officers," said Wedad Inshass, 40, who goes on regular shopping sprees to Egypt, and returns with bags full of sheets, towels and plastic goods to sell on sidewalks in Gaza. "And today they had an electronic device to check our bags.

"But, I was asked to pay 800 shekels \$266 for 10 kilos of goods. How am I going to

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De la Salle Church Tel. 661757 Terrasancta Church Tel: 622366 Church of the Amunication Tel.

Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 628543.

..... Memoire De L'Europe ...... News in French

... The Commist ...... News in English
..... Rose Against The Odds

.... Maghreb

PROGRAMME TWO

as she squeezed into a taxi with six other people. Her deflated bag sat on top of other luggage on the deck.

agreement signed May 4 in Cairo, the Palestinians are to share with the Israelis the

While ultimate security control remains under the Israelis, the Palestinian presence is expected to speed up procedures.

Palestinians have charged Israeli border officials of deliberately complicating the strict bureaucratic procedures, or just standing by idly as families converge on the counters, hauling heavy bags, children and water bottles for the long wait.

Their nightmare some-times continued for two days or more, with whole families

Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331.

St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751. Amman International Church Tel. 652526.

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel: 824328.

824328.
German-speaking Evangelical
Congregation Tel. 684195
The Church of Jesus Clarist of
Latter-Day Saints Tel. 654932
Church of Nazarese Tel.675691.
The Evangelical Local Church in

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Hot weather conditions will pre-

vail with winds northwesterly mod-erate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Yesterday's high temperatures:

Amman 34. Aqaba 40. Humidity readings: Amman 31 per cent.

Armenta 775261.

Tel. 811295.

Min./Max. temp.

ventilated hall, deprived of proper sanitary facilities. Taxi-driver Mohammad

Ahmad, who has been shutfor many months, said. Things are a bit better today, I can tell the difference. We used to wait for hours

A policeman checked peofive per cent profit. Trade was brisk both ways.

Cartons full of soap and shampoo, made in Gaza, stood by waiting to be loaded onto the bus, to go to market stalls in the denselypopulated areas of Cairo.

"The Egyptians don't ask for much customs," said Mohammad Abdul Latif Mahmoud. "But they keep us waiting for ever. They are as bad as the Israelis," he said, adding

he was sent back twice, for no

Ms. Nasser said Social

receives

death

threats

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM

(AFP) — A leading member of a hardline Palestinian group said Sunday she was being

terrorised and subjected to

death threats in a dispute

over a minister from the new

self-rule Palestinian author-

Maha Nasser, who heads

the women's branch of the

Popular Front for the Libera-

tion of Palestine (PFLP), said

she had received several thre-

atening telephone calls, that people had tried to break into

her house and that a blood-

and my family."

occupied West Bank. Ms. Wazir, also known as

in Tunis in April 1988.

She told AFP she did not know about Ms. Nasser's allegations, adding "I condemn such acts if they really took place."

# **JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CAL**

#### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

**NIGHT DUTY** 

Dr. Hisham Kan'an	790286
Dr. Wafid Al Masri	675485
Dr., Ramzi Mzawi	
Dr. Khalil Jbali	
First pharmacy	
Ferdows pharmacy	
Al Asema pharmacy	
Nairoukh pharmacy	627672
Al Salam pharmacy	636730
Yacoub pharmacy	644945
Shencisani pharmacy	637660
Nairouih pharmacy	623672
Najib pharmacy	247677
Latin bienment	DT1001
IRBID:	
D. Ali Al Chassisi	246140
Dr. Ali Al Shoqairi Alquds pharmacy	240140
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SAROA.	
ZARQA: Dr. Mufid Damrah	cocen
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**EMERGENCIES** 

Public Security Department
Hotel Complaints
Price Complaints Central Amman Telephone 623101 . 774111 636381 

Civil Defence Immediate

**HOSPITALS** 

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information Khalidi Maternity. J. Amn 644281/6 Akilch Maternity, J. Amn. department at the Queen Alia In-ternational Airport Tel, (08)53200-5, where it should always be veri-fied. 642441/2 Jabal Amman Maternity .... 642362 Maihas, J. Amman .... Palestine, Shmeisani ...

Shmeisaqi Hospital 669131 University Hospital 845845 Al-Musaher Hospital 66727/37 The Islamic, Abdali 666127/37 Al-Ahli, Abdali 6664164/6 ARRIVALS Royal Jordanian (RJ) (Terminal 1) Italian, Al-Muhajreen ... 777101/3 Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafich 775111/26 94:10 Jakarta, Kuala Lumpur (RJ) hir, J. Ashrafich 775111/20 

88:45 .... Abu Dhabi, Al 'Ain (RJ) Amal Hospital ...... 674155 ...... Aqaba (RJ) Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323 ..... New Delhi (add) (RJ . (09)900560 . (09)986732 l (09)990990 ----- London (RI Ibu Sina Hospital ...... ( Al Hikma Modern Hospital Princess Basma Hospital ... Greek Catholic Hospital Ibn Al Nafees Hospital ....

Other Flights (Terminal 2) Princess Haya Hospital ...... (03)314111

. Vienna (OS FOR THE TRAVELLER 13239 Muscat. Al 'Ain, Abu Dhabi (GF) 14400 Riyadh (SV) 17:00 Rome (AZ) 18:36 Paris, Beirut (AF) QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL **AIRPORT** 

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DEPARTURES Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

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Janeiro was for the environbrave woman but not as a Rafah border to Egypt from vociferous offensive against ment. representative of the author-The level of confrontation and hours out here for pasthe autonomous Gaza Strip artificial birth control, has between the advocates of free and the King Hussein Bridge organisers worried that the sengers, today its quicker." reproductive choice and linking Jordan with Jericho, The conference is being conference's main point — As he spoke, another women's development on the the other self-rule area in the organised by the Palestinian controlling burgeoning Israeli-run bus drover out of Women's General Union one hand, and the advocates West Bank. population — will be lost. the border compound's elec-The Palestinians were which Ms. Nasser said was "a Pope John Paul II has been of the return to the middle tric gate, unloaded more reages on the other, have never been so clear," he writes in scheduled to take up their lobbying all Roman Catholics non-governmental organisaturning Palestinians, and filposts Monday and to starttion and in the occupied territo join his anti-contraception led up with travellers to managing documents, cusand anti-abortion crusade. the current issue of Cairo's tories it was against the Egypt. autonomy accord."
Ms. Nasser told AFP that Al Ahram weekly. toms and security two weeks His appeal earlier this month brought some 200,000 Catho-The gathering — technicalple through onto the vehicle on Wednesday one caller, lics onto the streets of the But Israeli negotiator ly known as the International as young soda vendors called Philippines capital Manila in General Danny Rothschild who said he was from the Conference on Population Moderate Muslims here out "Egyptian pounds, and cold drinks." They sell the said Sunday that the crossing a protest march. and Development - is seek-Abu Jihad group, gave her 48 points were awaiting the U.N. officials have stressed ing a consensus on how tohours to change her mind "or currency for taxi drivers who arrival of Palestinian border he was going to wipe out me deal over the next 20 years the "programme of action" get Egyptian pounds from with the world's exploding inspectors and customs officto be presented at the conferpopulation and the problems

returning Palestinians, at a

soaked T-shirt was left on her The threats began after

Affairs Minister Intisar Al Wazir should be invited to a planned women's conference as "a struggling woman and a

She got more such telephone calls on Thursday, and on Friday she found the bloody garment outside her home in Ramallah on the

Um Jihad, is the widow of Abu Jihad, the former deputy of Yasser Arafat, who was killed by Israeli commandos

Hośni Mubarak weekend meeting of Islamic scholars. Still, Dr. Mohammad Bonzidi, an official of the Tunis-based International

Planned Parenthood Federation, believes the conference planning, just as the 1992 "Earth Summit" in Rio de

But the Muslim stance. along with the Vatican's

ence is so far only a draft and that even in its final form will not be binding on govern-Egyptian President Hosni

"Those who protest some times on the conference agenda basically forget the conference's ultimate objection and link population

of hunger and poverty. The goal is to try to hold world population to about 7.27 billion by the year 2015. compared with the current 5.7 billion. Left unchecked, the U.N. says, world population will reach 7.92 billion by 2015 billion and 12.5 billion by

growth in underdeveloped countries that can ill afford to Most Muslim institutions are not opposed to the concept of family planning but

2050, with much of the

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# AMMAN — Her Majesty Oneen Noor celebrates her And birthday today. During the last decade

IRO (R) — Egypt me ing its relentless for miling its miling miling inst Muslim militer ged five men on Mon trying to kill interior Hassan Ai Alli security source leid: men, sentenced the for the failed he

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fordan and the rest of the k on General Alife to world. In Jordan, Queen Noor ged in a Cairo julworks in partnership with various organisations and ney were the last group. individuals in promoting militants to he hange and supporting developaftermath of three se ment projects. abortive assaulte.

and a half, Queen Noor has

actively promoted socio-

economic and human de-

velopment in Jordan, and

has endeavoured to prom-

ote understanding of Jorda-

man society and culture.

acting as a bridge between

As the chairwoman of the Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF), Queen Noor directs projects and programmes which seek to address the needs of individuals and communities to enhance their standards of

sedki and five more Since its establishment in 1985, NHF has introduced innovative and dynamic integrated community deemned by numan ag velopment models that set national standards of excellence in human and en. Aifi narres socio-economic development, education, culture and the arts.

· NHF has initiated and expanded upon national development projects in the areas of family and community development, women in development, child welfare, the promotion of cultural heritage and the advancement of

During the past year, the Queen continued to focus her efforts to initiate and support long-term integrated development projects, especially in the rural areas. Accelerating human



development and economic growth through such projects has been a priority for the Queen.

One of Queen Noor's main objectives has been to provide rural women and men with access to appropriate training to enable them to participate in decision-making at all levels of the development

In February of this year, Queen Noor participated in the meeting of the interna-tional Steering Committee on the Economic Advancement of Rural Women, which was held in Brussels in preparation for the 1995 World Conference on Women to be held in

On the national level, the

Queen continued her efforts with several concerned officials and representatives to identify means of developing the Petra and Aqaba regions in environmentally-sensitive ways that respond to emerging cultural and touristic needs.

Queen Noor holds a degree in architecture and urban planning from Princeton University. She has received honorary doctorates from several universities, as well as international awards for her achievements in promoting human development and global understanding.
The Queen is also patron

and honorary chairperson of several national and international organisations.



ON THE LABOUR FRONT: Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali Monday receives at his office Director General of the Arab Labour Organisation (ALO) Baker Mahmoud Rasoul who is tly visiting Jordan to attend a seminar on defining the new trends of the Arab labour culture. Dr. Majali was briefed by Mr. Rasoul on the objectives of the seminar and topics discussed. The prime minister emphasised that the government is keen to support the ALO's activities, expressing hope that the seminar will achieve its objectives. Minister of Labour Khaled Ghzawi (left) also attended the meeting. The seminar, which was opened Sunday in Amman, continued its works Monday by discussing several working papers (Petra photo)

## Israeli press group proposes joint T.V. station with Jordan

A proposal to create a joint Israeli-Jordanian television arts station has been submitted to the relevant ministeres and the head of the Israeli negotiating team by two members of the Israel Association of the Periodical

The two, IAPP Chairman Joseph Frankel and David Lavie, chair of LAPP's inter-

national relations committee, suggest establishing a channel similar to Arte, the joint German-French station.

"One of the ways of drawing together the two countries which have suffered enmity for generations is to expose each of them to the other's culture. In the age of electronic media, it seems the most efficient means of doing this is via television, and particularly by a television sta-

taneously broadcasting programmes in both countries which express the cultures of the two peoples," said Messrs Frankel and Lavie in the proposal.

Arte was founded in 1990 to broadcast arts programmes in France and Germany, following the initiative of President Francois Mitterrand and Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

# Queen Noor celebrates birthday Prime minister, JBA discuss impact of regional development on economy

Minister Abdul Salam Majali Monday received at his office the president and members of . the board of the Jordanian Businessmen's Association

Dr. Majali outlined at the meeting the latest political developments in the region and the expected impact they will have on the Jordanian

The prime minister ex-pressed full understanding of the private sector's demand to have representatives participating in reviewing and revising laws governing invest-ments and financial and tax statutes in Jordan.

Dr. Majali stressed that there was still ample space for the private sector to contribute to expanding infrastructure and to exploit investment opportunities away from the traditional locations

FLYING HIGH: HIS Majesty King Hussein Monday received a cable from the president of the Belgian Sanekol Club congratulating him on the results achieved by the Royal Falcons Club in the Belgian aerial acrobatics championships. The Belgian club's president lauded the performance of Jordanian pilot Omar

inside the main cities, especially Amman.

He said each of the Kingdom's governorates has its own aspects and the private and public sectors have to exploit that in the best possible manner

Dr. Majali and the associa-

tion members agreed to hold an open meeting soon for an exchange of views between officials representing the private and public sectors. Meanwhile, association

president Hamdi Tabaa Monday received at the association premises a delegation representing the Japanese International Studies Institute. Mr. Tabaa briefed the two-

member delegation on the association's domestic and international activities and welcomed opening new channels of cooperation between private sector establishments in the two countries.

#### Bilal who won first place in the competitions.

☆ French film entitled "The Neighbour" at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation in Jabal Amman at 19:30.

WHAT'S GOING ON

- PLAY & DANCE
- Children's play entitled "Long Live the Dead Sea" at the Royal Cultural Centre on 18:00. \* Performance of Taiwanese folkloric dances at the Royal Cultural Centre at 20:00.

#### ART FESTIVAL

 $\stackrel{\star}{\bowtie}$  Festival of artistic works (including songs, plays, and an exhibition of various commodities) at the open theatre. the Royal Cultural Centre (5:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.).

## POETRY RECITAL

Poetry recital by Murid Bargouthi at Darat Al Funun of the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation in Jabal

## **NEWS HOUR**

ABC News Highlights and McNeil-Lehrer News Hour at the American Center at 17:00.

## EXHIBITIONS

- ★ Children's school needs exhibition at the Amman International Auto Exhibition, Airport Read (12:00 noon-11:00 p.m.) (Tel. 714211).
- Painting on copper exhibition by Mohammad Judi at the Phoenix Gallery for Art and Culture (Tel. 695291). Exhibition of painting by several Jordanian artists entitled "The Fact Between Paintings and Viewers As
- Viewed By Artist" at the Royal Cultural Centre. ★ Exhibition of new paintings by Dianz Shamounki at The Gallery, Jordan Inter.Continental Hotel (8:00 a.m. -
- (Tel. 720677).
- Exhibition of paintings by Jordanian and Iraqi artists at Orfali Art Gallery in Unun Utheina (Tel. 826932).

Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali Monday meets with Jordanian Businessmen's

Association board members at his office (Petra photo)

Mr. Tabaa also reviewed scopes of cooperation between Jordan and Japan in industrial fields.

He said Japanese industries can benefit from the cheap and skilled workforce in Jordan to establish indus-

tries that would not only

nian market, but also neighbouring markets, and called for having Jordan as an industrial centre in the region. Mr. Tabaa said that Japan

meet the needs of the Jorda-

dustries, food processing, clothing and leather manufacturing and advanced tech-nological industries. He said Korean companies

have already started launching joint ventures in Jordan and Jordan can cooperate in pharmaceutical industries, and stressed that the door is one of Jordan's growing inopen for Japanese companies.

## Iraq starts AIDS testing of travellers

## By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter replaces a six-year-old system under which every foreigner

AMMAN — Iraqi authorities have introduced obligatory AIDS tests for everyone entering the country through the Jordanian-Iraqi borders, local reports confirmed by travellers said Monday.

They said every traveller entering Iraq through the Trebeil border post from Jordan were asked to undergo a test at a centre set up near the

Iraqi nationals and Arabs who hold residency papers for Iraq are charged 10 Iraqi dinars each for the test while all others have to pay \$50 in foreign currency, they said.

Those who are found to test positive for HIV - the virus that leads to AIDS are turned away and others are given a certificate valid for six months.

visiting Iraq had to visit Iraci health ministry centres to undergo free AIDS tests if they wanted to extend their stay in the country. At first, the period of stay

without undergoing a test was one month, then it was cut down to 15 days and then to five days. The Arabic-language daily

Al Ra'i said many Jordanian students, apparently going to Iraq for the first time after enrolling in universities there, had to return home from the border since they did not have the required amount to pay for the test.

The arrangement went into force in mid-August, Al Ra'i Iraqi embassy spokesman

No figures are available on the number of AIDS deaths of cases in Iraq. Visitors to Iraq say pros-

all visitors.

titution has become rampant in the country, whose people Adel Ibrahim was quoted as saying by the Associated are suffering from a sweeping Press that he did not have trade embargo for the past official confirmation on the

"possible and logical"

that his country would bar

entry to people with AIDS.

qi government has started charging for the AIDS test to

cover its costs.

years to develop.

He confirmed that the Ira-

Routine AIDS tests detect

the presence of antibodies

that shield the body against

the HIV virus. However,

testing positive does not necessarily mean a person

has AIDS since it can take

Iraq was among the first

Arab countries to introduce

an obligatory AIDS test for

## Writers critique prize-winning novel

By Angham Tamimi Special to the Jordan Times

The border arrangement

AMMAN — The Jordanian Writers Society held a symposium attended by many Jordanian writers Sunday afternoon and analysed Ramadan Rawashdeh's Al Hamrawi, the short novel Mahfouz first prize for litera-

Critic Abdullah Radhwan presented an analytical study, while Ziad Abu Leben's pap-

et was comparative. The audience listened to

two varying viewpoints. The first tried to include Al Hamrawi in the works of the Jordanian novelists, and the second attempted to compare and to put the short novel face to face with the Palesti-

nian experiment. Mr. Radhwan's study seemed more reasonable in revealing Al Hamrawi's language, its style and the way in which the writer preferred to

introduce it. Its language is highly liter-ary. The writer likes to play with words, and to rely on

poetic usages. "If there is a reason for Al

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may last a maximum of 3-5 years before AIDS related

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These complexes are de-

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ARC victims either die

quickly or live for a max-

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(i.e., the original number of WBCs in their bodies).

The apex of the pyramid includes the AIDS cases

which are subjected to

opportunistic diseases such

as an aggressive form of

pneumonia, slim disease, a

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cer, brain mal-functions as

well as premature aging.

fever and sweating.

On the other hand, it

Hamrawi's winning, it is its language, as the Egyptian critics clarified," the book's au-thor told the Jordan Times. "I love the Arabic language. and playing with words is my favourite style in writing. The language I used in Al Hamra-

wi suits the hero's reality.' The writer was appreciated and Jordanian novel its identity by making use of the Arab literary heritage - A Thousand and One Nights, Tales of Kalilah and Dimneh,

etc.
"This is the secret behind its originality," said Nezih Abu Nidal, the Jordanian critic who evaluated Al Hamrawi before announcing it the winner.

Depending on cultural heritage as a source for creating new literary works may lead to an interaction between like works. Mr. Abu Leben based his

study on the similarities between Rawashdeh's Al Hamrawi and another Palestinian novel by Emil Hebibi.

"Rawashdeh tried to foilow Emil Hebibi's steps, said Mr. Abu Leben.

"So, the political involve-

ment clearly overwhelmed the artistic work. This can be well-noticed in the second chapter.'

Inclined to be subjective throughout his research, Mr. Abu Leben concentrated on minor ideas as if at avoiding to dive deeply into the major issues in such discussions, like language, style, and

structure. There was a kind of unjust treatment, said Mr. Abu Nidal. "This effort spent by Mr. Rawashdeh to reach the resemblance points of the Arab novel, and such attempts to make use of the highest literary techniques adopted by internationally famous novelists like Gabrielle Garcia Marques and others, should

"I myself went back to my semi-novel to read after being topped as the first winsaid the celebrated wriner.' ter. "I felt not completely

be re-evaluated and justi-

satisfied with all parts of it. But one may sense that the writers are not in a good match with the critics. Subjective or objective evaluation depends on general rela-

# Young medical student brings home update on

#### By Rima Cortbawi Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — As'ad Abdel Rahman, Director General of the Abdel Hameed Shoman Foundation, invited a young fourth year medical student, Romme Jada'an to lecture on Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) at the foundation Sunday evening. Mr. Jada'an's lecture dealt with theories on the history of the disease, how it actually spread, the nature of the responsible virus, registered cases available worldwide, as well as existing partial treatment.

There are social and human aspects in addition to medical ones on this subject," said Dr. Abdel Rah-

In his introduction, Dr. Abdel Rahman presented Mr. Jada'an as an extremely knowledgeable Jordanian medical student who was born in Germany in 1972, and who, having developed a keen interest in AIDS since his secondary school years, has given numerous valuable lectures on the subject at many weil-recognised European universities.

Mr. Jada'an is currently

studying at Vienna University, assisting in voluntary research work on a 'Danish-Austrian Immuno" project for discovering means to stop the transmission of HIV from a carrier mother to her innocent child and is a volunteer at the AIDS-Help Vienna organisation. One of the most popular

theories on the origin of this disease states that it was first observed by American and European medical teams who noticed that the number of white blood cells (WBCs) which are responsible for human immunity -- per one cubic millimetre of blood taken from sufferers of the "slim disease" (as it was called at the start of the 20th century 1915-1920) in central Africa was a hundredth that of a normal person. "People with slim disease only had a very thin skin layer covering their protruding bones and were

said Mr. Jada'an. Research on this disease was not resumed until the year 1981 when physicians Robert Gallo in the U.S. and Luc Montagnier in France simultaneously discovered the virus responsible for the decrease in

obviously dyhydrated,'

WBC numbers. The two doctors met in 1984, but, according to Mr. Jada'an, it was not until 1987 that they agreed on one name for the virus. HIV. Naturally, this provided the link between AIDS and the slim disease. which only manifests itself at an advanced stage of carrying the virus, said Mr. Jada'an.

So theoretically speak-ing, said Mr. Jada'an, AIDS started in central Africa although the World Health Organisation (WHO) rejects this theory strictly emphasising "the fact" that the origin of the disease is unknown. The disease then spread

to America, Europe and Australia from Haiti, according to this theory. Haitians, who migrated to central Africa in the mid-19th century, returned to their West Indian country after 1950. Having brought the virus to their homeland, they initiated its spread to other continents as Haiti became an attractive spot for tourists from all other countries, with the exception of the former

Soviet Union, according to Mr. Jada'an. In the U.S. HIV carriers numbered about 2,000 in the early 80s, but the figure

rose to 70,000 by the late 80s, and currently, over 250,000 people carry the virus, according to Mr. Jada'an.

Worldwide more than 77

per cent of the carriers have been attacked through sexual contact (homosexual or heterosexual), 13 per cent through intravenous injections, whether via blood transfusions or drug abuse, 6 per cent from pregnant women to their children or by breast-feeding, and the remaining 4 per cent via unknown means, which can be slightly worrying, added Mr. Jada'an.

It is important, he said, to distinguish between an HIV carrier and an AIDS sufferer. "Not every carrier is infected with the disease. but every infected person carries the virus," said Mr. Jada'an, adding that there is an average of 40 million carriers worldwide, but only three million are so far infected.

The viral cells have pro-tein spikes (GP41) and protein covers (GP120), which have great affinity to protein spikes present on certain WBCs (CD4), and so when the GP120 adhere to the CD4, the exposed GP41 penetrate the WBC,

creating a suitable path for the genetic information in the virus to undergo vital processes in the WBC, explained Mr. Jada'an.

This results in the reproduction of up to 4,000 viral cells that cause the bursting of the WBC, which explodes, leaving each viral cell to attack other WBCs and so on. According to Mr. Jada'an, this can take years to

occur in certain bodies because the activity of viral proteins depends on the surrounding media conditions (in the blood) which can vary from one person to another. So reproduction of viral cells can be very slow, regular or explo-sive, depending on the sys-

Thus carriers of the virus can be categorised in a pyramid of numbers. according to Mr. Jada'an. At the bottom of the pyramid, the largest number of carriers remain well

These give patients a maximum of 1-2 years before (for a maximum of 10-12 vears) before acquiring Partial treatment of the persistent generalised lymdisease involves injecting phadenopathy (PGL) which causes the swelling of lymphatic nodes in the neck, the armpits, the upper limbs and behind the the process, explained Mr. Jada'an. "That is why it PGL can be fatal de-

sufferers with acidothymidine (AZT) which deactivates the virus, but unfortunately damages some of the brain tissues in

should only be administered to either advanced AIDS cases or sufferers at the earliest stages when they are tested HTV posi-

tive," he said.

The difficulty in treating the virus lies mainly in that it continuously changes shape. "Vaccines are very specific and so hundreds of diverse viral shapes can only be subdued by hundreds of different suitable vaccines," said Mr. Ja-

da'an. Also HIV tests give posi-tive results only after three months from contracting the virus. "This is because viral cells can hide under dead bodies in the blood, making it difficult for antibodies to detect their presence," said Mr. Jada'an.

in response to superstitious beliefs that AIDS is a scourge to homosexuals for their unorthodox sexual behaviour, Mr. Jada'an said, "the number of HIV carriers through beenosexuality is decreasing by 95 per cent." But via heterosexnality, he said, numbers are increasing by more than 75%, especially by women. worldwide including Arab

countries. Theoretically, viral cells present in human sperm can become mutated when

surrounded by an abnormal homosexual activities, and so become very hostile, said Mr. Jada'an. This is probably why homosexualty has been associated with the spread of the virus, he

But, unconventional heterosexual inclinations also cause transmission of the virus, "secing as it dwells in all the body fluids and tissues, not just the blood, even though it can only reproduce in the blood," Mr. Jada'an said.

The virus must be present in certain concentrations to be infective. So saliva or mosquito bites do not cause viral spread,

according to Mr. Jada an. "Although it is fair to say that AIDS can be suffered by anyone anywhere, so far there is no medical proof that it can be transmitted via touching, handshaking, the air, sneezing, swimming, sauna, sports, sharing offices, bathrooms or showers or domestic

pets," said Mr. Jada'an. Therefore, social discrimination against AIDS victims cannot be based on a sound scientific or logical foundation, Mr. Jada'an concluded.

# Coast Guard seeks reinforcements to help with Cuban refugee influx

KEY WEST, Fla. (AP) — boat lift, the Coast Guard Cubans clinging to makeshift said. rafts drifted north in record numbers over the weekend. forcing the Coast Guard to call in reinforcements to help comb the treacherous Straits of Florida for refugees.

Despite President Bill Clinton's decision to detain those intercepted at sea at the U.S. navy base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, the exodus "doesn't appear to be slowing down," Coast Guard spokesman Gene Maestas said Sun-

day.
Volunteer pilots helping search for people at sea said there was no way the Coast Guard could reach all the rafters making the 140kilometre voyage under the scorching summer sun.

"We have in excess of 300 rafts in the Straits of Florida, the rafts keep coming," said Jose Basulto, co-founder of Brothers to the Rescue, a pilots' group. "The likeli-hood of life sustaining conditions in a raft is usually no more than four days. In the next few hours many people - hundreds of people — are likely to die unles something in a rush is done."

"There is an emergency, there is a dire emergency," said Sonny Dorrbecker of the Cuban American Pilots Asso-

On Sunday, at least 1,293 refugees were picked up, the most in a single day since 1980, when 125,000 Cubans flooded to Florida in five months during the Mariel

The numbers have surged since Aug. 5, when Cuban leader Fidel Castro threatened to open his coast and the United States responded by vowing not to allow another Mariel.

"It appears likely we'll be picking them up for quite a while." Mr. Maestas said. Mr. Maestas said. "It's unfortunate - you'd hope the president's policy would dissuade these individuals from taking to the seas in these rickety crafts."

Helicopters, planes, cutters and crew have been brought in from as far away as Boston to help handle the influx, said Coast Guard Lt. Commander Jim McPherson. He declined to discuss speci-

fics.
"We're extremely busy, but we're carrying out our mission," he said. "If the Coast Guard wasn't there, there'd be hundreds of deaths."

In the past, refugees from Cuba were virtually assured of asylum. That changed Thursday with Mr. Clinton's announcement that refugees who reach U.S. shores will be detained indefinitely, and those picked up at sea will be taken to Guantanamo Bay. Word of the new policy

the Communist island. Onelia Rodriguez Hernandez said she wouldn't have left if she had known her family would be detained. The 60-year-old woman went

had not yet reached many on

new U.S. policy and his to sea on a small fishing boat group was trying to buy Thursday night with her husband, three children and an another inner tube in Hava-11-year-old granddaughter. The journey was very hard, very scary, she said.

separated from her family to

be taken to a hospital for

treatment of a stomach ail-

ment. She was released

Saturday to the Cuban Re-

fugee Transit Center near

Key West, where she waited

near tears for word on where

her relatives had been taken.

family decided to try the cros-

sing after seeing the Castro

government wasn't stopping

people from leaving. Despite Mr. Clinton's order, she

thinks Cubans will keep com-

ing, seeking a better life in

During the Mariel boat lift,

most refugees came over in

seaworthy boats that sailed

from Florida to pick them up.

But the Clinton administra-

tion began threatening this

month to arrest any Amer-

icans who travel to Cuba to

A middle-aged woman in a

wheelchair at Cuba's Alta-

mar Beach said she counted

50 rafts that left after dark

Saturday as she watched, dis-

A 31-year-old man who

identified himself only as

Pedro said he and five others

were forced back to Cuba

when an inner tube support-

ing their raft punctured. He

said he didn't care about the

appointed, from shore.

the United States.

ferry refugees.

Mrs. Rodriguez said her

"What do I risk by staying here?" he said. The sheer number of tiny They were picked up by crafts attempting the crossing the Coast Guard and she was

> "There's absolutely no way the Coast Guard can pick up all of the refugee vessels that are on the water," said Thomas Van Hare, chairman of Freedom Flight International, a volunteer group that

means many, many more res-

The Federal Aviation Administration apponneed Saturday a no-fly zone over a good portion of the Florida Straits for safety reasons, Mr. Dorrbecker said, making it more difficult for his pilots to alert ships to rafts.

helps spot rafters.

On Sunday, White House Chief of Staff Leon Panetta raised the distant possibility of a naval blockade to pressure Mr. Castro.

"That's obviously one of the options that we would look at in the future as we see whether or not Castro begins to make some legitimate movement toward democra-Mr. Panetta said on ABC's This Week With David Brinkley.

Administration officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Mr. Panetta was referring to blocking trade from other countries to Cuba. They said the idea on a long list of options awaiting Mr. Clinton down the road.

China

marks

90th

Deng's

birthday

BEIJING (R) - While Chi-

na's chief architect of reform,

Deng Xiaoping, turned 90

Monday, the world's largest

surviving Communist Party is hoping his ideas will outlast

The country's top news-

paper, the People's Daily,

splashed a decade-old picture

of a vibrant, laughing and smoking Deng on its front

page, seemingly trying to

Chinese characteristics is a

glorious banner and a scien-

tific guide for realising the

ernise China) and to reach

our magnificent target," it

"It is the pillar of our

people's vigor and develop-

ment and is the most precious

spiritual treasure of the

whole party and the whole

people."
China's Communist Party

has staked its future on Mr.

Deng's plan to allow greater

economic freedom while

maintaining absolute power.

Ricardo Bazzii (left) of the Immigration and Naturalisation Service (INS) reads through a list of more than three hundred Cuban refugees that are being held at the Krome

Dentention Centre in Miami. The INS began allowing family members to visit refugees at the camp after protests by several hundred Cuban Americans (AFP photo)

## Clinton wins victory in crime bill passage

WASHINGTON (R) — Bill Clinton's embattled presidency got a badly-needed boost as the House of Representatives passed a crime bill, but the measure now moves on to perhaps an even tougher fight in the Senate.

The measure passed the House 235-195 Sunday in what Mr. Clinton called a "victory for all law-abiding Americans.

But it was also a success for him and for the bipartisanship which ressurrected the bill 10 days after 58 Democrats and 11 Republicans seemed to have killed it

off by voting to block debate. Mr. Clinton snatched victory from the jaws of defeat by compromising with Re-publicans, chiefly by cutting back crime prevention programmes they opposed in the original bill and including some proposals on punishment favoured by Republi-

In the final vote, Republican support jumped to 46, more than offsetting a loss of six additional Democrats.

Mr. Clinton restrained himself from crowing like the "comeback kid," as he was dubbed during his up-and-down 1992 presidential campaign, and appeared in a sombre mood as he spoke to reporters in the Oval Office after the vote.

"Tonight Democrats and Republicans joined together and they acted. They reached across party lines to pass the toughest and smartest crime bill in the history of the Un-

ited States," he said. "This is the way Washing-ton ought to work, and I hope it will work this way in the future," the president

Mr. Clinton said the bill "must pass the Senate this week." He thought the \$30 billion measure had the 60 votes it needed in the Senate to beat a threatened filibuster or procedural objection from Republicans who complain that it is filled with wasteful

great society-type spending.
The president said the bill was essentially the same as the Senate had passed previously, before the measure went to a House-Senate Conference Committee.

"Those who change their vote will have to explain it and will bear the burden of doing so," he said.

He noted that he had resisted strong pressure from the gun lobby to take out the bill's most prominent provision — a ban on 19 types of semiautomatic assault weapons — from the measure in the House.

"We held firm, though the opposition was intense and the outcome was uncertain," said the president, who has often been accused of waffling on issues when the heat

The bill puts 100,000 more police on the beat through the year 2000 and nearly \$10 billion for prison construc-

It includes a provision requiring lifetime imprisonment for three-time violent offenders — the so-called "three strikes and you're

out" provision. It also makes more than 60 federal crimes subject to the death penalty and tightens restrictions on so-called sexual predators, allowing law authorities to notify the communities into which they are Its price tag was cut by more than \$3 billion, to \$30 billion, in negotiations that went through the weekend. But the bill remained anathema to conservative Republicans, who continued to attack what they called the "pork" in the bill and charged that it did not do enough to deal with criminals.

Mr. Clinton has made the crime bill a centrepiece of his legislative goals and had been telephoning members of the house all day Sunday for support during the debate.

portant to the president on its own merits, approval was also considered critical if health care reform, the centrepiece of his domestic agenda, was to have any hope of passage in this Congress. Health care reform has

But while the bill was im-

already been on the ropes for weeks in Congress. Mr. Clinton said Sunday he hoped the spirit of moderation and bipartisanship which helped rescue the crime bill could be transferred to the health care debate.

"What gets Washington all jammed up is when ideology and labels overtake what is the clear reality of a circumstance. And I think that would be possible in the health care debate," he said.

"But everybody would have to be willing to sort of leave their preconceived positions at the door, at least be prepared to moderate them some in order to achieve the goal that we all say we want," he said.

He refused to say whether this meant he'd support a "mainstream" bipartisan health care plan offered in the Senate Friday.

The threats shocked local

residents and revived memor-

ies of a September 1992

bombing at a Yellowknife

gold mine that killed nine

workers at the height of a

#### Fewer movies for **Chinese buffs**

BELIING (AFP) — The cri-S sis facing China's film indus-try, amid a plummeting box office, has come to a head in the countryside where a 40-year-old film distribution network is close to disintegration, a report said Sunday.

According to the China

Youth Daily, the distribution system set up by the Communists in the 1950s to dis-seminate propaganda films throughout the country took a pounding last year, with the number of film-screening units plunging by 61 per cent to 17,500 compared to 1992, At the same time, box office takings in rural areas fell by 46 million yuan (\$5.3 million) as the number of filmgoers dropped by 1.5 billion. In remote provinces such as farts northwestern Xinjiang and Oinghai, 80 per cent of the original film-screening units have already closed down, the newspaper said adding: the newspaper said, adding that many children under the age of 10 did not even know. what a film was. 1993 was one of the worst on record for the Chinese film industry, with audience figures and box. office takings nationwide plunging 60 per cent and 35 ? per cent respectively from the previous year. According to industry analysts, the main in reason for the fall in attendances was the poor quality of local productions. The only success stories of 1993 were films co-produced with Hong .:-Kong financing. But that: trend was cut short this year -: following a government decision to reduce cooperation from overseas, limit the num-::. ber of co-productions and a ban the creation of joint ven- a ture production companies on the mainland.

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#### Parents arrested for letting 7-year-old drive

HONG KONG (AFP) - A couple who tried to demons-.. trate that their seven-yearold son could drive a Mercedes Benz now face court charges of allowing a minor to operate a vehicle without a licence, police said Monday. Shek Lin-Sang, 46, and his wife Cheung Ling-Ling, 48, were arrested Sunday after their son Michael drove their Mercedes Benz in a carpark. at a luxury residential estate. The proud parents were reportedly trying to prove to a 💆 local television station that their son was Hong Kong's; youngest driver. The pair, who were released on bail of 500 Hong Kong dollars (\$64) each, will appear in court on ;; Sept. 15.

#### Indonesian hermit shaves off 2.8-metre-long hair

JAKARTA (AFP) — An aged Muslim hermit, whose:-flowing locks exceeded his height, had his head shaved!-" after being told in a dream to have a government official." cut his hair, an official said -Monday. Bakti Saiman, 77, received his haircut from district chief Mohammad Zein Saturday in Pandeglang regency in West Java, on the 🖟 anniversary of the birthday of ... Prophet Mohammad, said Mulyono, a member of the. chief's staff. Saiman's hair had grown to 2.8 metres (9.4 feet) long since a wise man told him in a dream 35 years : ago not to cut it. The same -? wise man appeared to tell him to get it cut. Saiman, ... who guards the tomb of an... early 20th century Muslim.+. leader behind his hut in the ... village of Banjarsari has also only washed his hair 2once a year on the prophet's anniversary.

## Japan population 🔝 growth at record

TOKYO (AFP) — Japan's population growth continued. Japanese families

## Tutu steps in as Lesotho mediator

MASERU (AFP) -Archbishop Desmond Tutu Monday stepped in as international mediator in the strife-torn southern African kingdom of Lesotho as this market-town capital ground to a halt on the first day of a two-day national strike.

John Allen, spokesman for the Nobel Peace Prize laureate, said the South African cleric had been invited to mediate in the country's deepening crisis by Lesotho church leaders.

Arch. Tutu will spend a day in the tiny mountainous country, known as the Switzerland of Africa, which was ruled by Britain for more

pendence in 1966. Lesotho, a country of 1.8 million completely surrounded by South Africa, has been in turmoil since Wednesday, when King Letsie III dissolved parliament and ousted the government of Prime Minister Ntsu Mokheble.

Five people have been killed in clashes between security forces and antimonarchists, who called a strike Monday and Tuesday

in protest at the royal decree. Lesotho's donor agencies, notably the United States. Britain and other Commonwealth countries, have cut off or have threatened to with-

The mood of the capital was sullen Monday, with crowds milling about the streets and troops and police patrolling in greater numbers than usual.

With no public transport and banks and shops shut and sidewalk traders closed for the day, a tense, unnatural atmosphere replaced the usual marketplace bustle in the town centre.

In the surrounding townships, people seemed content to sit in the wintry sun, wrapped against the cold in traditional Basotho blankets, rather than venture into

#### than a century until inde-King Letsie reverses his deci- the town centre.

PHNOM PENH (R) -- Cambodia's first Prime Minister Monday ordered all journalists and diplomats out of southern Kampot province where Khmer Rouge guerril-las are holding three Wester-

ners hostage.
"Not only journalists but all diplomats are to be withdrawn from Kampot," Prince Norodom Ranariddh told reporters outside parliament. "I'm not against the press but we want this case to be

resolved quietly."
The Cambodian and foreign governments have criticised some media coverage, saying it may endanger the three hostages.

Prince Ranariddh said he was hopeful of a positive outcome within two or three days if media attention were

curtailed. On Sunday he lashed out at the governments of Australia. France and Britain for what he called "illogical" behaviour and defended continuing military pressure on the insurgents.

He said the three governments would not endorse paying a ransom but also opposed military action to pressure the Khmer Rouge

Western governments, he noted, frequently used military action to free hostages in cases where a ransom was not

"The hostages said please,. please, please pay the ransom. Your governments said no, no, no. I'm very upset. I'm very fed up," Prince Ranariddh said Sunday. "All

ly shut up."
Prince Ranariddh Monday criticised the media and Western governments for giv-ing him seemingly impossible

"Please don't tell me 'no ransom but no military action'. It will be impossible for us to resolve this question."
He blasted the Khmer Rouge captors as "political monsters" and said he had

with the issue. Prince Ranariddh said a senior army commander and deputy chief-of-staff, Lieutenant-General Nheak Bun Chhay, would leave for

supplant the image of a gaunt, frail and shaking man left by the paramount lead-Cambodia orders media away from hostages er's last television appearance in February.

An editorial lavishly of you countries should simp-

lauded Mr. Deng's reforms, which set China's 1.2 billion people free to get rich, and said they ranked in importguidelines to free the hosance with Marxism, Leninism and the thoughts of the revolutionary leader Mao Tse-

tung.
"Deng Xiaoping's theory
of constructing socialism with great 100-year plan (to modagonised over how to deal

Kampot Monday to supervise hostage negotiations.

## Death threats cast pall over Queen Elizabeth's Canada tour

freed.

YELLOWKNIFE, Northwest Territories (R) — Britain's Queen Elizabeth II heads into the final day of her Canadian tour under the shadow of death threats made against her in the country's Arctic territory.

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police revealed late Sunday that two bomb threats had been made against the 68-year-old. monarch in Yellowknife. While police said the threats were being taken seriously, security was not being tight-

The queen finishes her 10day visit to Canada Monday with stops in the tiny Arctic settlements of Rankin inlet

The threats were a marked contrast from the enthusiastic welcome she has received throughout the visit,

"We've had a number of threats that said people would kill the queen in Yellowknife... we're taking them scriously, but there has been no change in security arrangements," said police spokesman David Grandy. "Do I think anything is

going to happen? No I don't but we still have to investigate them as if it was," Mr. Grundy said.

Yellowknife is the capital of the vast Northwest Territories, a frontier region the size of India but with 55,000

attention should be paid to

Security sources said they were confident that painstaking plans already in place were enough to head off any potential attack on the queen. They suspected the

labour dispute.

threats were stunts aimed at generating publicity rather than serious warnings. One of the threats was

contained in a letter left for police at a local park and the other in a phone call to a radio station, Mr. Grundy

## **Bangladesh Navy joins rescue efforts**

DHAKA (R) — The Bangladeshi Navy was called in Monday to help find more than 300 people feared drowned when a crowded river ferry capsized in one of the country's worst shipping disasters. The ferry, carrying about

400 passengers and goods, overturned Saturday while trying to berth at Chandpur terminal, on the Meghna River, 100 kilometres from the Bangladesh capital Dhaka. Police said about 60 passengers were rescued but chances of finding further

than 300 still missing were remote. "Now we strongly suspect that not even one of the missing people is alive," a police officer told Renters by tele-

survivors among the more

phone Monday. "The navy is the last resort in a continuous but fruitless search. We have not been able to trace the sunken vessel yet," police officer Ami-

nul Islam said. Islam said the Meghna was at least 60 ft (18 metres) deep near Chandour and the ferry could have been swept miles (kilometres) downstream by fierce currents.

Navigation officials said navy boats have yet to arrive.



A survivor of the ferry mishap in eastern Bangladesh tries to identify the body of a boy found about three kilometres from the site of the tragedy. So far six bodies have been found after the MV Dinar-2 capsized off the eastern river port town of Chandpur leaving up to 250 people missing, feared dead. The ferry was yet to be traced (AFP photo) months to a full-scale return

MOSCOW (R) — Former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev called Sunday for a new democratic movement in Russia to prevent old-style Communists returning to power. In a televised interview on

the third anniversary of the coup which doomed his presidency, he said Russian President Boris Yeltsin's team had lost its way and was losing support.
Today the only people

who are organised are those who want to turn the clock back, revanchists, fundamentalists," Mr. Gorbachev told the weekly current affairs programme Itogi. "Currents and parties of a

conservative hue."

"That is why we need a democratic movement, a democratic alternative both to... the regime which turns out to be incapable of carrying on as it should, and to those who are dying to take over from it."

He insisted he was not seeking to be leader of the proposed new movement, but pointedly declined to rule out standing for the Russian presidency in the elections due in 1996.

The former Kremlin leader, revered in the West as the man who broke the Communist hold on power, has in Russia respect for his historical role but little apparent political support. But his latent stature was

underlined by the hostility of the interviewer and the fact that Itogi, which is generally favourable to the current liberal establishment, apparently went out of its way to try to discredit him. Presenter Yevgeny Kiselyov immediately cited an opinion poll showing only three per cent support for Mr. Gorbachev as presiden-

tial candidate. Itogi then

broadcast an interview with

Mr. Gorbachev, 63, who leading economist Grigory lost power with the collapse Yavlinsky criticising Mr. of the Soviet Union in 1991, Gorbachev's record. has moved closer in recent The godfather of peres-

troika and glasnost said there was a lot of interest in Russia in his views and not too much

opinion polls and newspap-Mr. Gorbachev was bitter about the men who launched an attempt to overthrow him on Aug. 19, 1991, and said he would advise parliament to repeal the amnesty it granted last February and reopen

their trial.

"My personal opinion is that these are people without conscience or honour," he

The former Soviet vicepresident, prime minister, defence minister, interior minister and KGB chief took power for three days in a half-hearted, blundering coup. After three days it collapsed and the ringleaders were arrested.

The coup precipitated the break-up of the Soviet Union into its 15 constituent republics four months later.

The amnestied ringleaders have begun defending their actions more and more forcefully in recent months, saying they were only acting to forestall the collapse of the super-

One of them, former land forces commander Valentin Varennikov, refused the amnesty but was acquitted early this month by the Russian Supreme Court. Mr. Gorbachev said these

attempts to justify the coup were a prelude to another bid for power by the Commun-

"What happened to ... Varennikov, that is a bad signal. It's a signal to any potential future putschists go ahead lads the next court will justify you, the next parliament will find a way to amnesty you'."

The coup anniversary was marked in low key over the weekend with low turnouts at public meetings both for and

Mr. Kiselyov cited an opinion poll that a quarter of respondents regretted the failure of the coup, with 28 per cent taking the opposite view. The remainder were neutral or undecided.

## Gorbachev wants new democratic movement in Russia

to slow down in the year to ' last March, with the annual growth rate hitting yet: another low of 0.29 per cent, the Home Affairs Ministry, said. The population totaled. 124,322,801 at the end of ... March. up 365,343 from a ... year earlier. The growth rate ... has been shrinking since 1973... and stood at 0.3 per cent in the preceding year, which, was the previous record low. The ministry's latest survey. released at the weekend...! showed there were. 61.086,642 men and-: 63,236.159 women in Japan as of March 31. The number. of elderly people aged 65 or higher came to 17,239,327. accounting for 13.87 per cent ... of the total population. The annual survey also indicated a further shrinkage in size of

ghai, 80 per cent of s inal film-screening g e already closed dosnewspaper said att many children under of 10 did not even kee ta film was, 1993 wat; ie worst on record for nese film industry iging 60 per cent and ious year. According stry analysis, the m. wing a governmente: to reduce coopera. overseas, limit the inhe creation of joints. production compa-

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IG KONG (AFP)-. le who thed to dent that their sevening on could drive 21/2 : Benz now face 🚌 es of allowing a --erate a vehicle with: ic, police said Mata-Lin-Sang, 40, and: Cheung Ling-Ling. arrested Sunday at son Michael drove ter edes Benz in a care axury residentials20. proud parents was: television station 2 son was Hong keep est driver. The III vere released on the ong Kong dollar ist will appear in com?

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RTA (AFP) - " Muslim hermit, was g locks exceeded to had his head state eing told in a dream. a government on-, hair, an official . y. Baku Samua. d his haircut from nief Mohammad Is ay in Pandeglance in West Java, etc. rsary of the puther. a Mohammad, 8-10. a member of 5 staff. Saiman's 15 own to 2.8 meters ing since a use fin in a die m Bier t to cut it. The ian appeared in get it cot. Same ards the tomb of Oth century May behind his hut if ? of Banjarsan ily washed his year on the proper-

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) IAFPI - Japan on growth continue down in the val reh, with the annirate hitting low of the per cer ne Affairs Minis e population totale. 801 at the end up 305.343 mam her. The growth is shrinking since is ed at 0.3 per cepiceding year with d there 59 women in Just

istry's latest surse at the weeken naz men an rch 31. The number y people aged 63 ame to 17, 30 3 ame to 17. ref co stal population. The arvey also indicate. shrinkage in size

# AY, AUGUST 23, 18 World News



ience figures and A Mexican farmer is helped by an elections official while casting his vote in the presidential elections in Yuntepec in the state ce takings natione of Morelos (AFP photo)

## cent respectively irons. PRI's Zedillo claims victory in Mexican polls ious year. According PRI's Zedillo claims victory in Mexican polls

on for the fall in and swas the poor ductions. The mass stories of 1000.

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Emesto Zedillo, the candidate of the party that has ruled Mexico for 65 years. ess stories of 1903 and declared victory early Mon-co-produced with He day in presidential elections g financing But that his two loading oppowas cut short this in neuts charged were unfair. The election, the most scrutinised in Mexican history, was seen as a crucial test

of co-productions of Mexico's democracy and its stability after an Indian uprising in January and the assassinatison of a popular presidential candidate in March.

After hours of peaceful voting, protests erupted across the country over shortages of ballots that kept thousands from casting votes.

'On this election day, there are no defeated. The most important victory is for democracy in Mexico. We all have a place in that," Mr. Zedillo said in a brief victory statement minutes after the first resutls were released.

With 15 per cent of pre-cincts counted, the candidate of the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) led with 47.14 per cent of the

dly trying to protest Cevallos of the conservative National Action Party, or PAN, had 31.35 per cent and leftist Democratic Revolution Party, or PRD, had 15.49 per cent. six other opposition candidates trailed far behind.

A plurality was needed to Mr. Zedillo praised his rivals for their "good faith and the aspiration to serve Mex-

"From now on, without sacrificing our differences, we should underline our agreements, joining our

efforts to built in peace and

harmony a more prosperous

Ruling party presidential candidate Ernesto Zedilio suiles at photographers as he casts his vote in the elections (AFP

and more just Mexico for and foreign observers moni-

He had earlier predicted the cleanest election in Mexican history. The PRI often resorted to fraud in past elections to stay in power.

Mr. Fernandez complained Monday about a "profoundly unequal and profoundly unjust' election system despite reforms, and Mr. Cardenas said his own exit polls showed he was winning the election. Both earlier vowed to lead

a civil disobedience movement if the election was

fraudulent. More than 82,000 national

bold economic reforms of this

500-member Chamber of De-

puties and 96 members of an

expanded, 128-seat Senate.

Southernmost Chiapas state.

scene of the Indian rebellion,

elected a governor, a legisla-

Turnout was 70 per cent to

75 per cent of Mexico's 45.7

million eligible voters, said

Felipe Calderon, the PAN's

indefinitely postponed a lar-

persuade the North to give up

Five U.S. legislators are to

visit this week for talks on

security in the Asian-Pacific

region and the Korean penin-

sula, the Foreign Ministry

said Monday.
The members of the House

Armed Services Committee

and the House Judiciary

Committee are to hold talks

ministers and pay a courtesy

call on President Kim Young-

The visiting delegation consists of Marilyn Lloyd (D-

Texas), Solomon Ortiz (De-

Texas), and Floyd Spence

Armed Services Committee.

and William Hughs (D- N.J.)

and Butler Derrick (D-S.C.)

from the House Judiciary

Meanwhile a North Ko-

Committee.

Sam, the ministry said.

its nuclear ambitions.

tors and local authorities.

tical reform

party. But third place would be a disappointment for Mr. Cardenas, who many believe was robbed of the presidency Mr. Salinas had promised the cleanest vote ever, and \$730 million was spent to Mexico's resolve to match the

plastic identification cards with photographs. A special year's North American Free Trade Agreement with polideputy attorney general was named to prosecute electionrelated fraud. The reforms were inspired Mexicans also elected a

in part by the rebel uprising. The guerrillas warned they could revive their insurrection if the voting was fraudu-The greatest protests, iro-

nically, arose over an anti-

fraud measure that limited

Mr. Żedillo, a 42-year-old

economist, was thrust into

the PRI candidacy by the

assassination of the party's

first candidate, Luis Donaldo

Colosio, on March 23 in Ti-

free-market economic re-

forms of President Carlos

Salinas De Gortari, capped by the NAFTA free-trade

bloc with the United States

and Canada. Mr. Salinas is

barred by the constitution

from running for a consecu-

tive term and leaves office

to greatly expand spending

on social services and educa-

tion to help the millions of

Mexicans still trapped in

poverty and to push Mexico

further into democracy by

distributing more power to

regional governments.
The apparent second-place

showing for Mr. Fernandez

strengthened the PAN's posi-

tion as the country's second

Mr. Zedillo also promised

He vowed to continue the

the number of ballots available at 687 polling places for absentee votes to 300 each.

## Akashi meets Milosevic to press for Bosnian border monitors

SARAJEVO (R) — Yasushi Akashi, the U.N. special envoy in Yugoslavia, met Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic Monday to press for international monitoring of Belgrade's blockade of

Bosnian Serbs. "One of the top issues will be the Serbian action to close the border with Bosnia, and the possible ways of monitoring the closure of the border," said Paul Risley, U.N. spokesman in Zagreb, prior to Mr. Akashi's visit. Mr. Milosevic has slapped

a tough embargo on ethnic kin in Bosnia following their repeated refusal to accept a proposed territorial settlement roughly dividing Bosnia in two between themselves and Muslim and Croat foes. But a previous blockade imposed after the rejection of the so-called Vance-Owen plan in May 1993 evaporated and scepticism persists in the

the new Yugoslav measures. Mr. Milosevic has told diplomats that, without the lifting of sanctions imposed on Yugoslavia for backing Serbs in the Bosnian war, he could not accept international monitors on the border be-

West over the toughness of

cause he was worried about a domestic political backlash. "The first step in a discussion about the possible easing of sanctions would be to independently verify that the border is sealed," said Mr. Risley, suggesting further con-cessions would be needed from Mr. Milosevic before any removal of measures that

have isolated rump Yugoslavia, comprising Serbia and Montenegro.

Mr. Akashi arrived in Belgrade days after being told by Radovan Karadzie and other Bosnian Serb leaders they still refused to accept the peace plan. "I also want to ascertain the role President Milosevic is playing for the reduction of tension at this time," Mr. Akashi said on his

After a meeting Thursday at Bosnian Serb Headquarters in Pale, near Sarajevo, Mr. Akashi said Western, Russian and Yugoslav pressure on Bosnia's Serbs to accept the plan had resulted in raised tensions and difficulties for the U.N. mission. In recent weeks, Serbs

have taunted the U.N. by moving heavy weapons in and out of exclusion zones, threatening to take fuel from United Nations convoys and firing at cargo planes, halting the U.N. relief airlift to Sarajevo.

Mr. Milosevic has backed the blockade of his former proteges in Bosnia with a campaign to discredit their leadership that has questioned the legitimacy of their

In response, Bosnian Serb leaders have gone on a pub-licity offensive, holding rallies to demonstrate popular support in their heartlands for refusing to trade land for peace and against pressure from Belgrade to bow to its

About 10,000 turned out in the virulently nationalist northern Bosnian town of Banja Luka Sunday to cheer a Karadzic speech that promised no surrender. A referendum is planned in five days time to cement rejection of

the peace plan. in the northwestern enclave of Bihac, Bosnian government forces were mopping up pockets of rebel Musim resistance after storming Velika Kladusa, the last stronghold of rebel leader Fikret Abdic, and ending his 11 month revolt, the U.N.

Mr. Abdic fled to nearby Serb-held territory, as did about 23,000 of his supporters, now marooned after being denied entry to Croatia. Relief officials and the Bosnian government were appealing or them to return home.

Thousands spent the night in miserable conditions trapped in a heavily mined and dangerous no-man's-land between Serb forces and the Croat army, fearful of reprisals if they turn back.

In Vehka Kladusa U.N. spokesmen reported happy government troops firing celebratory rounds in the air and taking up positions against the Serb forces that

backed Mr. Abdic's revolt. U.N. spokesman Eric Chaperon in Sarajevo said heavy shelling had erupted along frontlines in the southeast of the Bihac enclave where Bosnian army forces

face the Bosnian Serbs. "There were significant ex-

change of artillery fire all day and night along the Grabez Plateau with a total of 447 rounds fired," he said.

In Sarajevo, the U.N. reported a high number of ceasefire violations, including a fierce night-time fire fight near the airport. Humanitaian flights into

Sarajevo, all but suspended a month ago in the face of small arms fire at incoming aircraft, resumed Monday afternoon, a U.N spokesman said here. A British transport plane

flew in 13 tonnes of flour and blood for transfusions for local hospitals, said Peter Kessler, spokesman for the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugee (UNHCR).

It is welcome news," Mr. Kessler said. There have been only five such flights in the last 31 days.

Twelve more transport flights are scheduled for Monday, but many more will be needed to supply the 380,000 inhabitants of Sarajevo with the provisions

they need.
The UNHCR has organised the distribution of 450 grammes of food twice a month for each of the city's residents, but difficulties in getting the supplies to Sarajevo have caused frequent delays.

Despite the resumption of aid flights Mr. Kessler said problems remained. The city-wide distribution will have to be postponed due to problems with stocks of food," he said. "That is of great alarm to us."

## Germany, Russia vow to fight nuclear smugglers

MOSCOW (R) — Germany and Russia agreed Monday to cooperate to prevent the smuggling of nuclear materials but they have failed to trace the origin of deadly plutonium found in Germany last week, officials said.

"We do not have a clear answer to the question of where this plutonium comes from," ITAR-TASS news agency quoted Russia's intelligence chief Sergei Stepashin as saying after talks with German intelligence services coordinator Bernd Schmidbauer.

German officials have

lear materials in recent months, which they believe were smuggled out of Russia. The seizures triggered fears about security at Russia's top-secret nuclear establishments.

the German team.

seized several batches of nuc-

But Russians have said that there was no proof that the material originated in Russia. They expected Mr. Schmidistance to deliver the evidence or drop charges. In a separate report TASS said no such proof had been produced by

It quoted an unnamed Rus-

sian participant at the talks as saying the Germans did not deliver samples of plutonium they had seized, leaving the Russian side to rely on tests made by European experts.

"He insisted that nuclear materials with specifications mentioned by the German side, are practically never used in Russia," TASS said. Mr. Schmidbauer told re-

porters after three days of talks that the origin of plutonium was not the main point on the agenda of his visit to Moscow. He said Russia and Germany had agreed on a

joint action against the nuclear material smuggling.

"Both sides agree that illegal transactions with nuclear materials, regardless of where they come from, pose scrious dangers." a joint statement said.

"broader and deeper cooperation is needed to block criminal activities in this field."

He said that Russia and Germany would release a joint communique on the problem of smuggling as soon as the document had been approved by the leaders of the two

## Some Nigerian oil strikers return to work

LAGOS (R) — Some of Nigeria's striking oil workers returned to their jobs Monday for the first time since their pro-democracy stoppage began more than six weeks ago, oil industry offi-

Former military ruler retired General Olusegun Obasanjo warned the government that tension remained high and urged it to free presidential claimant Moshood Abiola, whose arrest in June deepened a year-old political

"His release will ease the way to a resolution of the conflict." Gen. Obasanio. the only Nigerian military ruler to have voluntarily relinquished power, said in a

statement. Mr. Abiola, who is widely believed to have won last

the verge of calling a cease-

fire in the hope of persuading

year's voided election, is on trial for treason for proclaiming himself president in defiance of General Sani Abacha.

Faced with the pro-Abiola oil workers strike and riots, Gen. Ahacha last week sacked the leaders of the trade unions and ordered their members back to their jobs. Officials at several multi-

national oil firms in Nigeria said some workers appeared to have heeded the order but said it was too early to make a general assessment on whether the strike had been broken.

There are a few more people here today than it has been the case for some time. a spokesman for a major oilproducing company in Niger-

"We are still assessing the situation. It takes time, another oil company official

A spokesman for the Nige-

rian National Petroleum Corporation said Nigeria expected its vital oil sector -from which fuel deliveries to the domestic economy have been badly disrupted by the strike - to return to normal within a week.

The unions have been demanding that Mr. Abiola should be freed and sworn-in to end military rule. Their dismissed leaders say the strike goes on.

The government, trying to break the strike, detained five of its opponents in the past few days including Frank Kokori, general secretary of the main oil union

It also called retired oil workers back to their old jobs, although it was unclear Monday whether any had registered, and stopped payment of worker's check-off

dues to the unions. The head of Nigeria's Muslims, Ibrahim Dasuki, asked Muslims to fast for three days beginning Monday to enable Nigeria find a solution to the

Nigeria's biggest city. Lagos, where some of the most violent riots have taken place, appeared calm Monday.

Banks were shut, as they have been for nearly two months. Markets were partially open, there were many more street trader and transport appeared to be gradually returning to normal.

## 7th Fleet joins U.S.-S. Korea exercise North-South confrontation

SEOUL (R) — South Korean and U.S. forces, including the 7th Fleet, began Monday war games which North Korea said are designed to prevent a breakthrough in its talks with Washington. A South Korean Defence

Ministry spokesman said the 7th Fleet would take part in the computerised military exercises for the first time to test its operational control of the South Korean Navy dur-South Korea and the Un-

ited States have agreed to appoint the commander of the 7th Fleet as the commander of the naval component of the joint U.S.-South Korean forces at the time of war," he said. North Korea denounced

the exercises, codenamed Ulchi Focus Lens, as a plot to undermine a deal with the United States to end confrontation over its suspected miclear arms programme. The South Korean spokes-

man said the 7th Fleet would not be deployed around the Korean peninsula but a computer link-up would be arranged for simulated war rames

The war games are command post exercises designed to improve cooperation between U.S. and South Korea for "contingency operations," a U.S. military

spokesman said. "It (the exercise) is aimed The annual two-week exercise, which also involves 36,000 U.S. troops stationed in South Korea, are the 19th in a series. North Korea says joint U.S.-South Korean military

exercises are rehearsals for "The Kim Young-Sam northward invasion and degroup that is seeking dependmanded they be scrapped. ence on outside forces and At the weekend, the reclu-

sive North also threatened to torpedo efforts to clear up more desperately than the successive rulers in bound to nuclear suspicions by saying it would never allow inspecmeet its doom," it said. The United States and tion of two key undeclared South Korea earlier this year sites believed by the West to

dumps. U.S. President Bill Clinton and South Korean President Kim Young-Sam agreed last week that experts would have to inspect the two sites before the West could provide Pyongyang with modern nuclear

be North Korea's waste

reactors. The promise to give lightwater nuclear reactors to the North was an important precondition for the Communist state's agreement to freeze its graphite-moderated nuclear programme, a suspected source of plutonium needed to make nuclear bombs.

Pyongyang, which denies it is developing nuclear weapons, also won U.S. agreement to work towards diplomatic recognition.

On Sunday, the Stalinist North denounced the Seoul government for timing the war games with its high-level talks with the United States.

After weeklong talks in Geneva earlier this month, North Korea and the United States outlined a path towards resolving the nuclear standoff. The talks will resume on Sept. 23.

at blocking a peaceful solution to the nuclear issue by rendering the situation of the Korean peninsula extremely strained," North Korea's official Rodong Shinmun

rean radio broadcast has hinted that there is opposition to the transfer of power from the late Kim Il-Sung to his son Kim Jong-II. A commentary broadcast by North Korea's domestic

central radio, monitored by the Radiopress in Tokyo, said the Stalinist state's revolutionary work should not end with just one generation. "Historical experience

shows that if the succession

issue involving takeover of

great revolutionary works of

the leader failed to be re-

solved correctly, it could re-

and revolution through acts of betrayal by ambitious people and conspirators," it said. This, the radio added. "could also bring about a

grave disastrous result." Six weeks after the July 8 ger three-month military exdeath of his father, Kim Jong-Il appears to have suc-ceeded the "great leader" according to a longercise, Team Spirit, to help established plan.

But he has still not been

confirmed either as general

secretary of the ruling Korea Workers' Party nor as state president. Some analysts have said it would be normal for the country to observe the traditional 100-day Korean with the foreign and defence mourning period before hold-

ing meetings of the highest

vince even sceptical obserparty and state bodies. But Kim Jong-Il, 52, has not been seen in public since his father's funeral. He had been groomed for

more than two decades to take part in the Communist (R-S.C.) from the House world's first dynastic successin. But Kim Jong-Il, who apparently lacks his father's charisma, has been portrayed by some Western intelligence services as a brutal and mentally unstable playboy who masterminded terrorist

> Shortly after his father's death North Korean radio reported Kim junior was at the helm of the party, state and military - the three crucial sectors he must secure to ensure his power base against any challenge.

Kim Jong-Il took over from his father as supreme commander of the armed forces in late 1991 and in April 1993 succeeded him as chairman of the National Defence Committee, a state sult in damaging the party organ.

#### DUBLIN (R) - Confidence grew in Ireland on Monday that IRA guerrillas were on

ia told Reuters.

Britain to open exploratory peace talks with their politicwing Sinn Fein. Long-simmering rumours that the Irish Republican Army (TRA) was considering a strategic break in hostilities bubbled up over the weekend with sufficient force to con-

vers that some kind of truce was in the offing. The guerrillas were said to be preparing an open-ended halt to their 25-year-old campaign against British rule in Northern Ireland. Some reports spoke of an announce-

ment within days. Newspapers said a ceasefire could coincide with a visit to Belfast by an influential Irish-American delegation. including former U.S. congressman Bruce Morrison. which is pressing Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams to provide proof of the Republican movement's commitment to peace.

Republican sources contacted by Reuters described the talk of an imminent ceasefire as speculative but privately did nothing to contradict the view that an announcement was awaited. In another sign of growing ceasefire momentum, both

London and Dublin reaf-

firmed their insistence on a

complete IRA renunciation of violence as the starting point for any talks with Sinn Fein about Northern Ire-

land's political future. Northern Ireland political leaders had little doubt a ceasefire was on the cards. But they predicted it might only apply to attacks on soldiers and police, not the pro-British protestant death squads which have been killg members of the Roman

Catholic community. A partial truce would be unlikely to staunch the bloodshed in Northern Ireland and could provoke Protestant extremists into intensifying a campaign which has already grown more murderous than that of the IRA.

"I think that there's going to be some sort of truce and I think that that truce is going to come about very shortly, said Ian Paisley, leader of the hardline, pro-British Democratic Unionist Party. His view was echoed by Eddie McGrady of the moderate nationalist Social Democratic and Labour Party, which seeks reunification of Ireland without violence.

An extended ceasefire would mark the IRA's first major cessation of violence since 1975, when a precarious truce held for around seven months while British and Republican officials tried unsuccessfuly to forge a basis for

For months, leaks and

Momentum builds for indefinite IRA truce hints from within Republican circles have been fuelling rumours that the IRA is plan-

> another olive branch to re-vive a stalled peace plan. The Anglo-Irish peace blueprint, laid down in last December's Downing Street declaration, acknowledged the future possibility of a united Ireland under Dublin's rule — which is the

ning to proffer Britain

IRA's main political aim. But it also promised northern Ireland's Protestant majority a veto over any change in their status and said Sinn Fein would not be invited to join broad political peace talks unless the party's guerrilla allies unequivocally abandoned violence.

Sinn Fein effectively rejected the plan last month as too mild and is keen to prod Britain into making a commitment to persuade Protestants they have nothing to fear from a united Ireland.

The IRA would need to point to significant concessions from London to justify it scaling down a campaign for which thousands of Northern Ireland Catholics have been killed or impris-

Police Monday said they found and deactivated an explosive device outside a shop in central London's busy Regent Street and were searching for others in nearby Oxford Street.

They said a large area had

Sources said a coded warning had been received, but police declined to comment. Suspected IRA guerrilias fired a mortar bomb at a security base in Northern Ireland Sunday night, but police said the device failed to explode.

van at a joint army and police hase at Roslea. County Fermanagh, was the third suspected IRA attack of the day. Police experts earlier defused a bomb attached to a trailer in Newcastle on the

Irish border and a bomb ex-

The bomb, fired from a

ploded under a car owned by soldier in Maghera near Londonderry. No one was A building worker was jailed for 25 years Monday for Irish Republican Army

bomb attacks on English oil and gas depots. Sean McNulty. 26, gave the judge a thumbs-up sign and said "that's no problem" after being sentenced for the blasts at an oil terminal and a gas depot near Newcastle in northern England last June.

Justice Stephen Mitchell told him: "The fact that noone was killed or injured as so easily could have happened - or extensive devastation resulted, helps you

not one bit." Mr. McNulty had denied conspiring with others to cause explosions.

By Rami G. Khouri

MCR CHISTORY

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## Danger in high seas

U.S. PRESIDENT Bill Clinton's decision to escalate pressure on Cuba by adopting a string of measures and actions against it stands to hurt the Cuban people themselves first and the Castro regime second. The Cubans who find themselves caught up in the web of the recent increased tension between their country and Washington could end up paying dearly for this

development. Both Havana and Washington are wittingly or unwittingly playing with the innocent lives of Cubans accustomed to receive political asylum in the U.S. if their dangerous sea trek across the Caribbean succeeds. The abrupt decision of the U.S. president to reverse a 28-year policy of granting automatic political asylum to such Cubans has left the affected people stranded in the middle of nowhere. In real terms, Cubans fleeing their country in search of promised freedom have become pawns in a battle of wits between President Clinton and Castro. Surely there must be a better way to deal with the prospect of mass exodus of Cubans from their country. The most effective way is to make their lives in their own country more humane and tolerable. This requires both political and economic reforms. While the recommended democratisation of the country can best be introduced by the country itself, the economic reforms cannot be expected to materialise as long as Cuba is subject to a U.S. embargo. This calls for a two-pronged policy that would continue to apply pressure for the democratisation of Cuba while at the same time relaxing the economic pressures against Cubans who opt to wager their lives in pursuit of not only political

## **ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES**

freedom but also economic opportuni-

ties. After five decades of trade sanctions against Cuba, it is high time to

acknowledge its culpability as the

principal reason for the Cuban ex-

AL RA'I Arabic daily Monday described the Jordanian-Palestinian relations as a tree branching over the two banks of the Jordan River. Based on this concept, the paper said in its editorial, His Majesty King Hussein clearly depicts the relationship tying the Hashemite family with Jerusalem in an interview with the German Der Spiegel magazine. The paper quoted the King as saying that this relationship dates back to before the establishment of Israel and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. The saving of Jerusalem from the Zionists in 1948 by Jordan which was destined to be a means to unite the two banks of the Jordan River in 1950 is but a live evidence of these historic relations between Jordan and Palestine in good times and bad times, the paper said. Hence, we understand from the King's statements to the German magazine the need to separate between protecting the holy places and political differences because the protection of holy places is the duty of every Muslim leader, but as for political differences, they will be resolved one day, said the paper. It added that that is the reason why Jordan was always the first to extend assistance and support to the Palestinians and share with them the journey of pain and dream over the long history of the Arab-Israeli conflict and has always supported the free choice of the Palestinians. Therefore, we look forward to the success of the ongoing talks between the Jordanian and Palestinian sides away from tension, it said.

AL DUSTOUR Arabic daily also addressed Jordanian-Palestinian relations in its editorial Monday. The paper said that Prime Minister Abdu! Salam Majali has stressed, following the Jordanian-Palestinian round of talks Sunday, that these relations are so deeply-rooted that no differences in views can separate what was united by geography, history and the common interests of both peoples. No doubt Jordan's welcoming the resumption of negotiations with the first Palestinian delegation arriving from the self-rule areas conforms with Jordan's continued calls for establishing the best relations with the Palestinian side and is harmonious with Jordan's inclination to support every step that might enhance these relations, the paper said.

The View from Fourth Circle

Democracy and peace: Spectator or participatory sports?

THE PACE of events related to the peace-making process with Israel has been so fast in the last month that most people are startled by the historic developments taking place before their eyes, but otherwise apparently rather ambiguous in their political sentiments. Predictably, there are limited groups of people that are either enthusiastically for or against the peace process as it has unfolded. The majority of Jordanian and other Arabs, however, seems peculiarly noncommital.

This transitional political psychology that we witness is telling in itself; some of its particularities are worth analysing for what they tell us about the condition of much of the Arab World, and about what we need to do to assure ourselves a better future. I would suggest several reasons for the prevailing hesitancy of so many Jordanians and other Arabs

regarding the peace breakthroughs.

1. The nature of Arab decision-making throughout the peace talks — not only this month but this decade and half century — has not promoted the sort of democratic, grassroots dialogue and consensus that are required for genuinely enthusiastic support for the peace talks. All the Arab governments and power elites have followed a similar pattern of making the big decisions after consultations among a handful of people, and then announcing the decisions to their people. Participation in the peace-related decision-making process by parliaments, grassroots organisations, an open media and other basis institutions of governance has been astounding for its near total absence.

Predictably, therefore, both opposition to and support for the decisions have been perfunctory and mechanical. For Most Arabs, watching the peace process unfold is like

Most Arabs, watching the peace process unfold is like watching the World Cup—it generates much interest and occasional flashes of passion, but it is, in the final analysis for most individual Arabs, a spectator sport, and not a participatory sport. This reinforces the negative sentiment that has plagued our region for hundreds of years: Individuals are conditioned to feel that they do not participate in their own destiny and cannot share in the decisions that will determine the future quality of life of their children.

This increases the sense of political alienation that has hampered national development throughout the Arab region in the second half of this century. It also feeds the other reactions that we witness today, notably in the field of national identity, culture and economics.

In the last year, many Jordanians and Palestinians have reacted to the peace-making process by alternating senti-ments of confidence and fear. In Palestine, optimism and pessimism routinely characterise the public mood. Some Palestinians are convinced that Palestinian national rights

will be achieved in due course; others fear that Yasser Arafat and his guys have relegated the Palestinian national cause to perpetual municipal glory.

For six months after the Oslo accord was signed, many Jordanians were fearful about the future of the country. They saw how quickly Jordan's regional role and bilateral that ware sidettacked and marginalized because of the ties were sidetracked and marginalised because of the attention given to Palestine and Syria. Consequently, when Jordan reacted by vigourously reactivating its role in the peace process, it explained this primarily in terms of protecting

Jordanian national interests and safeguarding the rights and welfare of Jordanians. Jordanians felt that Jordan was not only pressured or ignored, but also threatened

Both the Palestinian and Jordanian reactions suggest that we are dealing here not just with issues of rights, justice and national wellbeing. We are dealing with existential realities and fears, reflecting the notion that countries and communities have to work hard not just to improve their national condition, but sometimes even to assure its perpetuation. This partly reflects the changing flows of contemporary political and economic forces; but it is mainly rooted in the mass perception that many modern Middle Eastern countries, being born of unpredictable historical development, remain vulnerable to the unsentimental verdict of this

region's rich and ongoing dynamism.

3. It is fascinating and slightly troubling to note the economic and cultural dimensions of ordinary people's reactions to the peace process. Most people seem to fear that Israel's military dominance and political strengths in this region in recent decades will now be translated into a dual economic and cultural onslaught that will overrun and subjugate the Arab World.

Objective facts would suggest that this is far-fetched, because a) Israel has neither the cultural depth, dynamism and distinctiveness, nor the economic power to dominate the Arab region, and b) the rich Arab culture and the large Arab economy are both on the verge of a major reawakening, as this region slowly sheds its legacy of autocracy and author-itarianism and instead taps its indigenous strengths through more humane and participatory systems of governance and more rational, productive and sustainable economic systems.

The fears that Jordanians, Palestinians and other Arab express, however, are very real. They reflect a profound sense of vulnerability that is also rooted in the ugly legacy of Arab autocratic political rule. The average individual Arab. having been socially and politically conditioned for most of this century to obey orders and to clap on cue, is now politically and psychologically unable to rise to the challenge of national self-assertion in the face of an Israeli state that is, on the basis of objective criteria, near economic basket-case surviving mainly through militarism and dependency.

There are many opportunities for Arabs and Israelis to work together for their common economic good; there are also many opportunities for economic, infrastructural and business complementarities that could be exploited. The Arabs have enormous resources that could give them economic and political leverage — markets, energy and raw materials, entrepreneurial skills, strategic geography — if they do not collapse in a heap of national psychological trauma in the face of the first real opportunity this century to realize their full national potential in a region whose artificial realise their full national potential in a region whose artificial

barriers are slowly crumbling.

4. The most intriguing Arab reaction to me is the fear of our culture being dominated or destroyed by Israel. I find this astounding, because Arab-Islamic culture is so rich and provential our coolst and interest and communal value customer. powerful, our social traditions and communal value systems are so deep and strong, that it is inconceivable to me that we could be threatened in any way by the confused hodge-podge of Israeli "culture". The real threat we face is not from

Israeli national dynamism or predatory policies; it is from our own cultural lassitude, national lack of confidence and social and economic inertia.

These are not intrinsic to Arab-Islamic culture, for our culture has been a world leader several times in history, in fields such as morality, economy, technology and the sciences and stable governance. There is nothing wrong with Arab-Islamic culture that some humane decent political culture cannot cure. The reasons for the widespread Arab fears of cultural loss of identity can be directly traced to the same pan-Arab national political legacy that I referred to earlier. People have been conditioned for so long to be passive, dependent and obedient that they have involuntarily suppressed the natural, proven vitality of their culture.

All of these factors explain the peculiar hesitant reaction

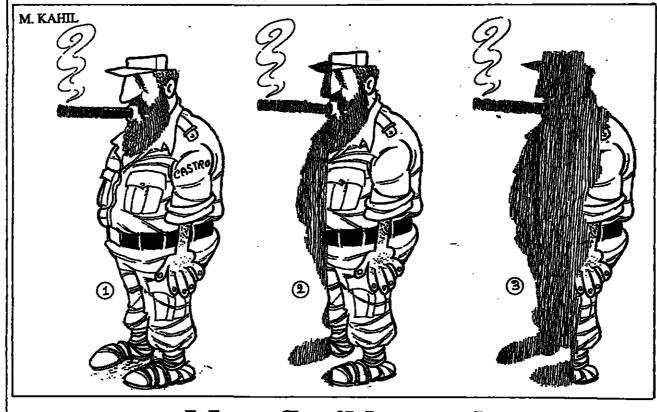
of most ordinary Arabs to the peace process that unfolds before us on a daily basis. People are afraid to be happy. They are hesitant to be proud. They are nearly unable to generate the normal human reactions that are required to face up to the enormous historic possibilities and opportunities that stare us in the face.

The antidote to all of these constraints and problems is very simple: It is the need to give back to the men, women and children of our Arab Nation the feeling that they are not merely an audience in an intriguing spectator sport, but a powerful and experienced team that has to be actively involved in the game at hand. It is to revive the Arab sense of humanity and vitality that has been suppressed by the grave distortions of 20th century Arab history.

This can only happen through a process that takes place within each individual and simultaneously on the level of public affairs. The Arab need to be more involved in the momentous decisions that are being made in their name and for the sake of their future wellbeing. Political leadership and power elites should not fear this, but rather welcome it.

There is no doubt that the majority of Arabs already support the concept of negotiated peace and will continue to support the broad negotiating strategy being pursued in their name by their governments. If the democratisation process underway in Jordan, Palestine and other parts of the Arab World is not activated for the single most important public policy issue facing our people, both democratisation and peace will suffer in the end because they will be seen as unstable remnants of the old Arab order, rather than harbingers of the new order that we all seek to built, to enjoy and to pass on to our children.

Involving and consulting the Arab people in the peace process will strengthen our negotiators hand in the peace negotiations that are taking place, secure better peace terms that can assure justice and future stability in the region, and provide the vital transition to genuinely participatory governance that is so badly needed in our region. It will also transform the peace process from an abstract, alienating force for national political hesitancy, into a dynamic. constructive foundation for building a post-peace Arab Nation — a nation that has the experience and the self-confidence that are required to meet the challenges of the future, rather than to be startled, awed, surprised and



## More flexible stand urged against ailing Cuba

By David Storey Reuter

WASHINGTON — President Bill Clinton's hasty response to the boat people exodus from Cuba was seen by many analysts as a stopgap that must be followed by a constructive U.S. approach to settle one of the last relics of the cold

war.
"Cuba is at a critical turning point," said Gillian Gunn, a Cuba specialist at Washington's Georgetown University who recently returned from a two-week visit to the island.

"It is more important than ever that U.S. policy be carefully calibrated to nudge the leadership (of Fidel Castro) in a peaceful, rather than apocalyptic direction," she wrote in the Washington Post Sunday.

She and other commentators urged a shift from the aggressive policy to foment domestic opposition to Mr. Castro, who has been Washington's Caribbean bogeyman for 35 years, to a more flexible one of offering incentives for democra-

tic change.
On Friday Mr. Clinton withdrew the welcome mat for Cubans making the risky crossing to Florida aboard ramshackle rafts, reversing a 28-year policy to grant automatic asylum to refugees from the Communist state. They are now being detained at Guanta-namo Bay U.S. naval base, ironically, on Cuba.
About 3,000 people have

been picked up by the U.S. coast guard in August, prompting fears of a repeat of the 1980 exodus, also encouraged by Mr. Castro, in which 125,000 Cubans swept across, many of them released from jails or mental hospitals.

Cementing his tough line, partly to assuage domestic political pressure, Mr. Clinton announced an end to cash remittances from the United States, a cut in flights between Miami and Havana and an increase in propaganda

broadcasts. The changes brought U.S. policy more closely into line with that towards Haiti, and a nod towards the fact that, as the New York Times said in an editorial," with the cold war over, Cuba is no longer

a special case." It added: "The next logical step, which the administration unfortunately shows no sign of taking, would be to formulate constructive diplomatic policies toward Cuba that could help ease the way to a democratic post-Castro fu-

In the United States, the image of Cuba as a security threat was formed by the 1962 missile crisis, when president John Kennedy faced the Russians down over their plans to deploy Communist ally 145 km

from the U.S. coast.
With the collapse of the Soviet Union and the further impoverishment of the island, an ideological out-post stranded without an economic and political backer, the threat has shifted to that of an unman-

ageable refugee influx.
Critics of the tough U.S.
policy point to the thaw in
U.S.-Vietnam relations where steps toward full trade and diplomatic ties with the old enemy are partly justified in terms of encouraging democratic re-

Under the threat of nuclear blackmail, the Clinton administration has taken a similar conciliatory line with North Korea, another orphan of the Soviet bloc, opting for talks rather than the big stick. "It's time to begin offer-

ing Cuba, step by cautious step, relaxations of the sanctions in return for en-forcement of civil liberties and progress toward demo-cracy," the Washington Post said in an editorial.

Georgetown University's Gunn argued for creating an environment in which the Cuban leaders, already coping with serious shortages of everything from food to energy, would feel safe to make fundamental

A more flexible policy offering incremental steps to ease the embargo to reward reforms, would change the climate.

"Washington would create the political room for

key institutions, particularly the military, to gradually alter their role in Cuban society without endangering their physical well-being," she said.

Bernard Aronson, assis.

tant secretary of state for Latin America in the Bush administration, last week proposed a similar prog-ramme of incentives to encourage democratic change.

They would include promises that the U.S. military would not intervene in Cuba and would ultimately withdraw from the Guantanamo Bay base.

## **LETTERS**

## Loving peace

To the Editor:

AS SURELY as the glorious day follows the dismal night peace must follow war. Yet between night and day, there is dawn, and without dawn, darkness would become an eternal shroud, and humanity would yield to its tempting call of

slumber, sleep and morbid inaction.

Almost half a century of war has crawled heavily upon the wheels of time. Those years have been etched painfully yet surely within the chronicles of modern history. Slowly, though, stories written with the pen of blood are now written with the quill of gold, as the night begins to end, and the war begins to choke amidst the mists of peace.

Be not deceived however, for dawn has not yet come, and the resplendent sun waits patiently beyond the white sands of the precious desert.

The transition from war to peace is the most important stage of the whole process of change. Now, we must awaken the sun from its long and sad slumber. We have to accept the past, pray for the future, and live the present. Living entails listening, learning and loving; we must listen to our hearts, learn from the past, and love... peace. While peace may not be eternal, love is, and by loving peace, maybe we can

Let us begin to understand that war is a silent thief. It steals our eyes so that we can't see, and our ears so that we can't listen. Let us begin to realise that peace is the will of God. It grants us eyes, ears... and life. Let us begin to comprehend that now, the sun must rise, and dawn must pierce the painful past. For as surely as dawn becomes day, and war becomes peace, despair turns into hope, and our lives are changed... forever.

> Sa'ad Nabil Muasher, Northwestern University,

## Petra fee not too high

To the Editor:

IN ANSWER to Kirk Albrecht's letter (Jordan Times, Aug. 21), concerning the high admission fees to Petra, I wish to point out to Mr. Albrecht that the entrance fees to Disneyworld in the USA or France is around \$50 per person. He should admit that charging him less than \$30 to visit a world marvel, thousands of years old, is still cheaper than visiting Eurodisney which is hardly a sight and only four years old. The old entry fee to Petra of JD5 was abnormally low, not reflecting the real cost of living, salaries and maintenance fees. In my opinion, the admission fee of \$30 is still too low and should be revised

Freddy Lama,

The Jordan Times welcomes letters and contributions from its readers on any subject they wish to tackle. Letters intended for publication, however, should contain the writer's full name and preferably address as well. Names can be withheld only upon request and under special circumstances. Letters are subject to adding The repuspilicircumstances. Letters are subject to editing. The newspap er is not responsible for the return of unused manuscripts.

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## Jordan-PLO talks conclude

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Abed Rabbo, in answer to a question on the Jerusalem issue, told reporters that the two sides had agreed that their foremost goal is "to liberate Jerusalem from Israeli occupation."

"I don't think that there are differences between Jordan and Palestine regarding the issue of Jerusalem," Mr. Abed Rabbo said. "Both of us see that the main task in front of us is to end the occupation of Jerusalem, its land, people and holy sites and regard it as a part of the Palestinian territory occupied

sin = 1967. He added that the "relationship between us is much bigger and deeper than to have differences over admimistrative issues.'

Vir. Abed Rabbo added that the close ties between the Kingdom and the Palestinian leadership also "go b:yond media matters which sometimes are used sensationally to poison the atmosphere of relations."

"Jerusalem and the ending of its occupation is a joint Jordanian-Palestinian objective and also an Arab and Islamic issue," he said.

On the trade agreement between Jordan and Israel, the two sides declared in their joint statement that the trade volume between Jordan and the Palestinian authority areas "has to reach the maximum level."

"The amount reached in an agreement with Israel to export Jordanian goods to the areas outside the self-rule au-

thority's current jurisdiction. which is \$30 million, is not of the level we aspire to," the joint statement said.

We have to find the suitable mechanism to which we would ensure the continuous flow of goods easily," said

that have already been agreed to as part of the Cairo agreement but we are looking for the mechanism to facilitate the movement of these goods between the two banks as well as arranging the transit movement in a manner that would serve both sides.' Dr. Anani added as he read from the joint statement.

In the banking sector, Dr. Anani told reporters that the developments on the ground on the banking sector in the occupied territories "has been taken into account to ensure that we are able to lay down a mechanism... ensure the stability of the Jordanian dinar and at the same time leaves the monetary and banking work in the Palestinian territories to operate at

the two sides said that the Palestinians had briefed the Jordanians on their plans to issue Palestinian passports "and we thought that there are details in this issue that have to be discussed and we agreed to do that," Dr. Anani said.

whether Jordan agreed to the principle of an independent Palestinian passport, Dr. Anani said: "We agreed to it. We will cooperate with them to the maximum level.

toms authorities to observe

cargo at Agaba and report to

the United Nations Sanctions

Committee. Jordan will pay

the cost of the surveying

through a U.N. escrow

account and claim the

amount from the U.N. Com-

pensation Committee which

the Gulf crisis.

handling claims related to

The Lloyds Register

arrangement was agreed after

nearly one year of discussions

and four years of Jordanian

complaints that the costly offshore "interdictions" —

the American name for the

practice of naval officers

based on warships hailing and

boarding civilian ships for a thorough scrutiny of cargo and documents — were caus-

ing the Kingdom heavy los-

would boycott a PNC meet-

ing in Gaza and said any

member who approved changing the PLO's national charter would be guilty of

Palestinian charter is a

Zionist-American call which

represents the first and final

act in the process of eliminat-

ing the Palestinian cause," a

spokesman for Mr. Jibril

The call to change the

treason.

## Problems loom in Jeddah

(Continued from page 1)

again," said one businessman and importer. "We were happy that an end is in sight for the damaging offshore inspections by the American warships, and now the Saudi

move has hit us." based Lloyds Register is ex-

port as of noon Thursday. An eight-member team of Lloyds Register surveyors will work in coordination with Jordanian ports and cus-

(Continued from page 1)

and Gaza Strip. .

He said the deadlock over Jerusalem might be solved by keeping the city united under

"The Palestinians will continue talking about Jerusalem as their capital but in their hearts I think they realise

Mr. Beilin said he saw no major obstacles to a full peace accord between Israel and Jordan and that peace with Syria was within reach if the Syrians had the political

"With Syria there is a (peace) formula but no date, and the formula is obviously.

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said Monday Israel would allow hardline Palestinian leaders opposed to the PLO-Israel peace deal to enter Gaza for a Palestine National Council (PNC) ses-

Mr. Peres said if the PNC did not drop clauses from the charter that denied Israel's right to exist, the PLO would

national arena. He said Israel hoped Mr. Abu Nizar's statement was not the policy of Mr. Arafat. "We've said we are not opposed to their convening in

Gaza," Mr. Peres told Israel Radio on Monday. "We would allow everyone to enter, including Jibril, including Hawatmeh, whoever

Ahmad Jibril heads the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command. Nayef Hawatmeh leads the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine. Both bitterly oppose the September peace deal pro-viding Palestinian self-rule. In Damascus, Mr. Jibril

and Mr. Hawatmeh said they

the joint statement. There are lists of goods

its best standard.

In their joint statement,

In response to a question

to Jeddah on Monday to pick up some of the containers, they said. "Politics are at work

Under an agreement signed by the Ports Corporation in July, the Londonpected to replace the high-sea inspections by a land-based verification regime at Aqaba

## Israel: No early recognition

located on the West Bank

Mr. Beilin envisioned a Palestinian entity which was independent in most matters but with security and foreign affairs run jointly with Jor-

Israeli sovereignty but with various local administrations.

they must not throw away the biggest chance in their history i to create peace," Mr. Beilin

we reject such entry," Mr. Jibril's spokesman said. "The return of all Palestinians to their bomeland is a right which is approved by all international laws and U.N. will to negotiate directly with decisions. Therefore we need no invitation or permission from Peres to go to our homes," Mr. Hawatmeh's

spokesman said. territories for peace," he

Mr. Hawatmeh's spokes-man said the DFLP supported the convening of the PNC in any Arab capital to review and discuss the PLO-Israeli peace agreement which is rejected by the majority of our people."

"Out we reject the conven-ing of the PNC under occupasion on the Palestinian chartion. We reject the call because it is aimed at forcing Palestinians to submit to the Israeli will to change the charter and to endorse the be harming itself in the inter-Gaza-Jericho deal," he said.

"We will continue our struggle to foil the Gaza-Jericho deal and to establish the independent Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital," the DFLP spokesman said.

## Syria rejected Israeli offer

(Continued from page 1)

from Hizbollah downwards and if you wish upwards who are now operating against the security zone, against Israel, would be dismantled of their military capabilities," Mr.





Children and adults crowd a tent of one of the humanitarian organisations in the refugee camps of Goma. The UNHCR says food aid for refugees had been stolen by Zairean soldiers (AFP photo)

## Over 20 million in Horn of Africa may starve

AYOD, Sudan — In southern Sudan, the sound of a plane brings hungry people running to the dirt airstrip, hoping for food to sustain them through drought and

the 12th year of civil war. These are the strong, who often trek for days to reach villages on the food airlift. The weak are left in the bush, to eat boiled leaves and wild fruit, or to

In the dramatic, barren canyons and valleys of tigre province in northern Ethiopia, a long civil war is over but the misery is unending. The ground is so dry that no crops can grow.

Africa's newest country, Eritrea, is struggling to rebuild after a 30-year war for independ<u>ence</u> from Ethiopia. Drought has turned farms to wasteland. Dust swirls in the searing heat. Even the thorn bushes

have died. Overshadowed by the misery of refugees fleeing Rwanda, a far greater human catastrophe threatens more than 20 million people in 10 countries in and around the Horn of Africa. the continent's eastern

From Sudan to Tanzania, the haunting images of malnourished children are back. Their shriveled limbs, protruding ribs and swollen abdomens are terrible reminders of killer famines in Ethiopia in 1984-85 and in

"Anyone who contributes Somalia just two years ago. to the change of the charter is Relief experts hoped an committing high treason and early warning system that our people know how to deal with those people," he alerted the world to the threat of mass starvation would mobilise enough "If Arafat agreed to enter Gaza under the knives and food aid to avert a repetition of the 1 million deaths the flag of the Israeli enemy in Ethiopia and the 350,000

in Somalia. It has so far, but the flight of nearly 2 million Rwandans has overwhelmed already overstretched relief operations in the rest of the

Horn of Africa. Food, trucks, relief workers and millions of dollars have been diverted to cope with the Rwanda crisis, leaving other famine-prone areas at risk. Their vulnerability is compounded by growing fatigue among the donors that ultimately foot

Bronek Szynalski, director of the U.N. World Food Programme's (WFP) emergency operations, said any diversion of money from southern Sudan, Ethiopia and Eriteria "could well lead to terrible

consequences." "People look at what is the most visible and the most dramatic," he said. They react to that and forget everything else... people have already forgotten that there were also Rwandan refugees in Tanzania, Burundi, and even in other places in Zaire," not

just at Goma. Julia V. Taft, president of Interaction, an associa-tion of 158 U.S. voluntary organisations, said millions of dollars President Clinton promised for Rwanda is being diverted from programmes elsewhere in the

"It's like shifting chairs on a sinking ship," she

"We're using the same resources, the same money, the same food, and just reallocating them within the same constrained budgets. "In the long run, we tragically reduce our ability to

prevent some of these crises... before they occur." Even before 1.2 million Rwandan refugees fled to Goma, Zaire, in early July, the Horn of Africa faced a disaster of biblical proportions caused by drought,

pestilence and war. Hundreds of thousands of Ethiopians, Eritreans and Sudanese who depended on donated food were not even getting the minimum 2,000 calories a day the United Nations deems necessary for surviv-

people live on nypp or 1,300 calories, so we can't predict when people start dying," said James Borton, technical coordinator of the U.N. Emergency Unit for Ethiopia.

Lush vegetation covers the wolaita district of southern Ethiopia, but there is nothing to eat because hordes of caterpillars have devoured crops, leaving only the green stems and caterpillars have devoured crops, leaving only the green stems and leaves. Re-lief workers believe more than 10,000 people died of hunger and related afflictions in the first six months

of 1994. Prolonged drought has parched farms and dried up rivers in northern Ethiopia. Eritrea and northern

Kenva. In Somalia, where U.S. soldiers took charge of food deliveries in 1992, gunmen again roam Mogadishu and the countryside, stealing food intended for the hundreds of thousands dis-

placed by civil war. Tragically, while millions of Rwandan refugees are hungry, a bounty sorghum crop rots on their abandoned farms. The refugees have put impossible demands on food and water supplies in neighbouring Zaire and Burundi as well as in Uganda and Tanzania, which have pockets of

drought. No one is sure how many Rwandans have been buried in mass graves in Zaire, how many Ethiopian peasants have starved, how many southern Sudanese are trapped without food by

a never-ending civil war. According to the U.S. Agency for International Development, 6.9 million people may starve to death in Éthiopia, 4.9 million in Rwanda and the Zaire refugee camps, 4.9 million in Sudan, 1.7 million in Burundi, 1.5 million in Eritrea, 1.4 million in Kenya, 888,000 in Tanzania, 540,000 in Uganda, 410,000 in Somalia and 120,000 in

That total of more than 23 million is higher than the U.N. World Food programme's estimate of about 18 million.

The current emergency in

the Horn is worse than the

continent's last one, in

Djibouti.

Famine stalks the Horn of Africa once again, casting a shadow of death on millions of people. Will they be saved or will "donor fatigue" set in? AP Correspondent Edith M. Lederer traveled more than 4,800 kilometres over sever-

al weeks in search of answers.

southern Africa two years ago. Southern Africa had better ports, roads and transport to deliver food, and western donors were

more generous.
'I think that donors are getting... worn out because so much of the aid needed today is related to civil strife," Szynalski said in an interview in Nairobi after visiting Rwanda and several

Earlier this year, the World Food Programme appealed for 2.1 million tonnes of food worth more than \$880 million to help nine countries in the Horn of Africa. Donors have pledged about 1.7 million tonnes worth about \$600

million. After the Rwandan exodus, the agency appealed for an additional 82,000 tonnes over three months to feed the refugees in Zaire. So far, 53,000 tonnes has

Ms. Machok said she had walked for two days to reach Ayod. "I have nothing," she said, "and if we do not get food, we will

"In Ethiopia; many of the 58,000 people in Tigre Province's Wamberta District have to walk nearly 30 kilometres for donated food and up to five hours for water. More than 10,000 farm animals died for lack of grass, said Mahari Tsegay, the district administra-

At the Heik Meshale town clinic, Amlisha Mahari tried to comfort her month-old son and the 2week-old daughter of a neighbour. Both mothers were so malnourished they had no breast milk. And there was no milk at the

"It's worse than the last time for us," said Ms. Mahari, who was forcibly resettled in southern



Two starving Somali children await food distribution in Baidoa (AFP photo)

Western governments and private agencies are running out of relief money for the year. If "donor fatigue" sets in, millions of people could starve.

Nearly all of the 10,000 to 15,000 people now in Ayod, a rebel-held town in southern Sudan, live on handouts of sorghum and lentils from the World Food Programme. Many have moved several times because of the

"I came here when I heard there was food, because I was hungry, I used to eat seeds and the leaves of fig trees," said Nyatin Machok, stirring a pot of sorghum outside her family's conical straw hut. She wore only a tattered, dirty loincloth. Her three children, all naked, had bloated stomachs.

Ethiopia during the civil war and returned to Tigre last year. "When I came back. I thought life would be better. But now I have nothing to sell and nothing to eat.

In the dusty Eritrean village of Shieb, Halima Osman, 45, pondered how her eight children would survive the week.

"I haven't ever seen anything like this," said the former refugee, who returned from six years in Sudan when the war ended. "We want to be independent. We want oxen and seeds... but we have nothing.... If no food comes, we will die."

Hard as their lot is, the people of Shieb are more fortunate\_than millions in the Horn who have only

sporadic help or none at all. Farmers in Gadela village in Ethiopia's wolaita region lost their first 1994 crop of maize because rains were late, and caterpillars devoured the second. Hundreds of villagers,

weakened by hunger, died in an outbreak of Malaria. When a health team came to weigh and vaccinate everyone under 5, more than 500 mothers gathered, holding their sick, stick-like children and demanding

food. "For more than three months we've had no food," said Barate Agogo, who uprooted a clump of grass to show what her family had been eating. Two of her five children had died two months earlier and her 4-year-old son was under 60 per cent of normal

A decade ago, a military government tried to hide Ethiopia's famine. This time, the civilian government alerted the world and donors pledged more than 90 per cent of the 1 million tonnes of food requested. But getting the food to Ethiopia is easier than getting it to the millions of

hungry people.

Landlocked Ethiopia relies on the antiquated ports of Massawa and Asab in Eritrea. Even before the big grain cargoes have ar-

rived, ships are backed up waiting to unload. Outside the ports, problems multiply: There is a short of trucks and many

roads are inaccessible. People in villages like Gadela "are living at the abyss of hunger, and if only a small thing happens they will go over the edge," said Peter Dijkhuizen, deputy director of the World Food Programme in Ethiopia.

So far, Ethiopia has avoided mass migration and the creation of huge camps that breed cholera and other diseases. That fits the aims of the United Nations and relief agencies: Keep people at home, keep them alive and give them seed and tools for the next crop.

A lot depends on the summer rains. They are reported to be good in parts of Kenya and Somalia, but in Ethiopia a food shortage will persist even if the rains bring a bumper crop.

Agricultural methods are so primitive that Ethiopian farmers produce only half as much maize as Kenyan farmers grow on similar land, and the nation has 12 million more mouths to feed than in 1984-95.

"I think we'll get through this year without massive loss of life, but if we have a bad main rainy season, it could be very serious in 1995," said Peter Simkin, the U.N. Development Programme representative in Ethiopia.

In Kenya, now experiencing one of its worst droughts, several district officials have been accused of selling relief supplies. Vast quantities of food have been looted in Somalia, and in Rwanda, desperately needed shipments were

stolen. Hunger is rampant in many areas of southern Sudan cut off by fighting between tribes. The war has claimed an estimated 1.5 million lives since it began

Fighting and banditry halted truck convoys from Neighbouring Uganda. Rail and river shipments have been stopped because a food train and food barge were looted, mainly by rebels. That leaves only air delivery, by far the most

In early July, fighting forced relief workers out of Alek county in the south-western bar El Ghazal region, where the French Agency Doctors Without Borders had found acute malnutrition in more than

45 per cent of the children. Tve been in Sudan now for 10 years and this is the vorse l've ever seen.'' sau Gary Jones, emergency liaison officer for the Sudan emergency operation con-

sortium of relief agencies. "All the problems have been compounded this year because you've got the successive bad droughts of the past few years... and an upturn in fighting in the war resulting in the displacement of tens of thousands of people across southern

In Khartoum, the milit ary government insists

there is no emergency. "If you say that two million people are at risk of starvation, that's dramatisation, that's sensationalism. that's stuff for the movies. said Ghazi Salah Eddin minister of state in the pres-

ident's office. "It would have been more constructive to look at the gaps" in food supplies and "how the international community could help with transport," he said in an

interview. "But to put it in a manner which incriminates the government in one way or another - I don't see how they can expect us to be very cooperative." he said. referring to the United Nations and foreign relief organisations.

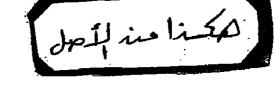
Luciglo C. Ramirez, adviser to the World Food Programme in Khartoum, said most hunger-related deaths in Sudan this year have been due to displacement, not drought.

What can be done? In the short term, life or death depends on the generosity of donors and their ability to deliver the

Revelians R.N. Tuluhungwa, chief representative of the U.N. children's fund in Ethiopia, said half the people who die in drought and famine could be saved by clean water, medical care and vaccination, especially against

measles and tetanus. Ultimately, the larger issues of war, education, development and population must be addressed if sub-Saharan Africa is to escape the cycle of disaster

and rescue. -"We are always trying to just fill up the holes without attacking the root causes. said Szynalski of the World Food Programme.



## Mideast could spend \$78b on power projects

DUBAI (R) — Middle Eastern countries, which face an explosion in domestic and industrial demand for electricity, could spend nearly \$78 billion on increasing generating capacity by the year 2019, a specialist weekly said Monday.

The London-based Middle East Economic Digest (MEED) said that if planned increases go shead in 15 states in the region, which in the MEED survey include Pakistan but exclude Israel, generating capacity could rise by 70 per cent by the turn of the

It said additional capacity of 68,000 megawatts was planned and more proposals were expected to boost the current capacity of just under 100,000 megawatts.

The main additions were expected in Pakistan (20,000 MW at a cost of \$15) billion), Saudi Arabia (15,000 MW at a cost of \$15 billion) and Iran (13,000) MW at a cost of \$17 billion).

It said, without giving details, that Iraq planned to spend \$12 billion on increasing generating capacity but these plans will remain on hold pending the lifting of the U.N. economic embargo imposed after Iraq's 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

Five Arab Gulf oil states other than Saudi Arabia — Bahram, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates — were planning to increase capacity by 7,590 MW at a total cost of \$9 billion, according to the figures quoted by MEED.

BONN (R) — Germany's two main churches have

attacked the welfare policies

of Chancellor Helmut Kohl's

Christian Democrats, saying

they had divided society into

ity for the living conditions of its worst-off," the Catholic and Protestant churches said

The church criticism came

'society shares responsibil-

winners and losers.

## MEED: Iran's finances look better than expected

land \$312 million, France

\$300 million, Denmark \$210

million, the Netherlands

\$210 million, Spain \$150 million, and

Belgium and Sweden \$140

It said there was more than

\$200 million in private short-

term arrears to Britain now

under negotiation for resche-

duling and another \$1 to \$2

billion of mostly private res-

thedulings expected.

By rescheduling the ex-

pected \$10 billion, Iran will

have spread out payments between 1994 nd 1999, in-

cluding a two-year grace

period. But the annual pay-

ments will continue to

million each.

DUBAI (R) - Iran's finances are in better shape than was expected even six months ago after it successfully rescheduled the bulk of its foreign debts and received a boost from higher oil prices, a specialist weekly said Monday.

The London-based Middle East Economic Digest (MEED) said Tehran had so far rescheduled \$8 billion of its short-term foreign debts to 11 of its main trading partners and expects to raise the total to \$10 billion in the

coming months.
"This means that Iran will have restructured its debt profile from mostly shortterm to mostly medium-term after years of reluctance by

Western countries to help out with anything beyond short-term credits," it said.

Iran, which is facing a hostile United States that tried unsuccessfully to derail the rescheduling talks, could also earn up to \$4 billion more from higher oil prices than anticipated in its cautious budget for the 1994/95 financial year which started on March 21, MEED said.

"The government's finances are thus in much better shape now than even six months ago. Certainly, Iran can start looking ahead and planning for the first time in

two years," it added.
MEED listed the rescheduling so far as: Germany \$2.71 billion, Japan \$2 billion, Italy \$1.4 billion, Austria \$466 million, Switzer account for 20-25 per cent of estimated oil revenues, it added.

MEED projected total foreign debt repayments as follows: 1994: \$3.5 billion. 1995: \$1.6 billion, 1996: \$4.4 billion, 1997: \$4.1 billion, 1998: \$3.85 billion and 1999: \$3.57 billion.

It said that payments of about \$800 million in the year 2000 would cover only interest and principal from previous medium and long-term loans. Annual payments after that would be insignificant if Iran does not take on any new loans.

The weekly said Iran would have to adhere rigor-ously to this schedule or face the wrath of international bankers and state insurance agencies.

Speaking of a host of serious economic difficulties and a restive population, MEED suggests the reschedulings provide a breathing space but do not resolve underlying problems.

After reviewing the delays suffered by President Akbar Hashemi Kafsanjani's economic restructuring plans, it quoted analysts as arguing that economic reform cannot succeed without parallel political liberalisation.

"Any such move will be difficult as ong as the siege mentality fostered by U.S.-led international hostility continues to prevail," it added.

## South African labour aggression could backfire, central bank says

JOHANNESBURG (R) -Recent aggressive wage demands in South Africa could undermine the country's anti-inflation fight and postapartheid reconstruction goals, the Reserve (central) Bank said Monday.

The bank, in its annual economic review, painted a picture of widespread poverty and unemployment, and endorsed the high priority given by President Nelson Mandela's three-month-old government to improving the lot of the disadvantaged.

It gave warning, however, that the high, sustained economic growth required to create jobs could be achieved only in a stable financial en-

"A more equitable distribution of wealth and income is difficult, if not almost impossible, to accomplish under conditions of high inflation," it declared.

The report followed a wave of strikes, accompanying annual wage negotiations, aimed at securing the "better life for all" promised by Mr. Mandela's African National Congress (ANC) when it campaigned for April's first all-race elections.

The bank said all new jobs created between 1981 and 1989 were wiped out in the following four-and-a-half years, which spanned the country's longest recession on record.

As of last October, 29 per cent of the economically active population was unable to obtain paid work, it said.

It noted South Africa's monetary authorities had succeeded in reducing inflation to single digits in 1993 for the first time in 20 years. And, with consumer prices running at an annual 7.5 per cent in

June, they had held it down this year.

Father C Marke

But, it added, productivity had shown poor improve-ment and higher labour costs did not angur well for the anti-inflation fight.

"Recent aggressive wage demands, combined with the depreciation of the exchange rate of the rand, may frustrate the authorities in their efforts to curb the general rise in prices further," the report pointed out.
It said risks included not

only a threat of higher inflation, but also reduced demand for labour itself. Militant demands could encourage the development of

more capital-intensive production, affect business confidence and hold back private sector investment.

"Disorderly labour conditions are therefore detrimental to the objective of high employment-creating economic growth. By restraining output growth, such labour actions also limit the ability of the authorities to achieve the socio-economic upliftment of the popula-tion," it said.

The report follows official projections that the economy could grow more than 2.5 per cent this year, after 1.2 per cent in 1993 which followed three years in a row of shrinkage. But 2.5 per cent growth would barely match the rate of population increase.

Economists say much stronger expansion of the economy is needed to make a success of the ANC-led government's reconstruction programme aimed at creating iobs and tackling housing, health, education and other backlogs suffered by the five-to-one black majority under anartheid.

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#### MEES sees oil price rise in the medium term within weeks.

NICOSIA (R) - A slide on oil prices in recent weeks may have run its course, with a price rise likely in the medium term, the Middle

East Economic Survey (MEES) said Monday. "There is ample evidence that points in the direction of higher — not lower — prices. at least in the medium term, the Cyprus-based newsletter

"The fact that the contango in crude prices (in which forward prices are higher than those for physical car-goes) has intensified recently indicates that the crude market itself is not convinced lower prices are here to stay," it added.

Brent Blend crude futures for October delivery, used as

a benchmark for world oil prices, opened at \$16.30 a barrei in London Monday from a peak of \$19.41 on

Aug. 1.
MEES said the market had been taking a more relaxed view of further Nigerian oil output cuts and focused on bearish factors such as forecasts of high North Sea output and extensive U.S. and

European refinery turnar-ounds later in the year. But it said although Niger-ia's oil output had stabilised

around 1.5 million barrels per day (b/d) in the midst of an oil workers' strike, the political situation there was still highly volatile with observers expecting a "decisive crunch" between army rulers and the pro-democracy opposition

The strike has cut Nigerian output by about 20 per cent and MEES said there was no evidence that other Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) members would make up the shortfall, which would mean a major violation of their agreement not to raise output before the end of the year at least.

## Farm loans, talk of aid to firms drive rouble down

MOSCOW (R) - The rouble slithered to a new low around 2,190 to the dollar Monday, a victim of government loans to ailing agriculture and traders' fears that the state will issue new credits to help companies sur-

"The government has hinted it will support industry, and there has been talk about the possibility of for-giving companies' debts," said Igor Doronin, a market analyst with the Moscow Interbank Currency Exchange (MICEX). "Such ideas are stirring up

inflationary expectations and raising speculative activities," he pointed out.

The currency, which is not

freely convertible on world markets, has fallen six per cent over the last month amid a big rouble surplus. The rouble fell to 2,171 per dollar on the exchange from 2,151 on Friday and 2,112 a

in a broadcast interview that

he wanted cuts in unemploy-

ment and other benefits after

October's general election to

ensure that the jobless do not

end up with higher incomes

His statement was de-

fended by Christian Democrat (CDU) General

Secretary Petere Hintze, who told German radio: "We

than wage-earners.

week ago.

But, unusually, it traded well below the MICEX rate on the interbank market. where banks quoted the currency as low as 2,190 roubles per dollar. The gap between the MICEX rate and the interbank rate is rarely more than five points.

Dealers expected the rouble's slide to continue despite efforts by the Russian central bank to close a gap between supply and demand at daily trading sessions on MICEX. "A rouble surplus persists

after the credit emission and the situation on the currency market is panicky. The central bank is trying to brake the rouble's ball, but it does not always succeed," said Stanislav Tregub, treasurer at Business Bank.

The central bank sold \$20 million during trade on MICEX on Monday, but traders said actual central banks sales recently accounted for most of net trading volumes on the ex-

motivate the jobless to find

work. Everyone has a duty to

contribute, whether partially

or wholly, to their own liveli-

The churches said in their

study, which was meant to have been published after the

October elections and which

church officials said had not

been formally adopted, that

bood."

German churches lambast gap between rich and poor

change. Net turnover, which gnores compulsory exchange of some export earnings, was a new record of \$165.45 million on Monday, up from last week's previous record of \$161.40 million.

"The rouble slumped today after the central bank decided to save some dollars. Of course it's stupid to sell \$150 million a day," said a dealer who declined to be named.

Traders expect the rouble to continue falling by about 10 points a day, although some dealers think the fall could slow as banks take profits on the rouble's recent But a dealer from De-

lovaya Rossiya said some banks were selling dollars at the request of the Russian central bank in an effort to help the bank prop up the rouble.

stigmatised and shut out from

It specifically criticised the

The study also lambasted

the government's handling of

unification in 1990 which was

meant to have been a new

biginning for east Germans

\*but had actually ended for

hundreds of thousands in de-

"division of society into win-

ners and losers."

people in need should not be solation and unemploy-

Meanwhile, Russia's acting finance minister, in a sharp

reaction to a plea for debt forgiveness from a govern-ment colleague, said Russia had no intention of asking the West to write off its debts.

ITAR-TASS news agency quoted Sergei Dubinin as saying that Russia's relations with creditors were based on the need for strict observance of all debt service obliga-

Suspension of foreign debt payments would automatically mean that existing credit lines along which Russia receives aid are closed," TASS quoted Mr. Dubinin as saying in an interview in the historic city of Yaroslavl to the north of Moscow.

Foreign Trade Minister Oleg Davydov, breaking ranks with cabinet colleagues, suggested last week that creditors write off some of Russia's debts, effectively as a quid pro quo for Russia's role in bringing the cold war to an end.

Opposition Social Demo-crat (SPD) leader Rudolf

Scharping has criticised the

government's plans to cut

welfare, saying seven million people live below the poverty

level in Germany and that the

cuts would make them a

Mr. Hintze said the CDU

plans would take the qual-

permanent underclass.

Russia has struggled to re-

debts, fearing that this could make it harder to borrow in the future. Mr. Dubinin said Russia intended to continue paying

pay debts of \$80 billion inher-

ited from the former Soviet

Union and creditor states

have agreed to reschedule these debts, giving Moscow

extra time to pay. But Russian officials have

so far refrained from asking

creditors to forgive their

its debts regularly "according to established rules." The finance ministry shares responsibility for debt talks with the economics ministry of Alexander Shokhin, Mr. Davydov's foreign trade

ministry is not directly responsible for the issue.

Western states are worned that repaying Russia's foreign debt could put an unbearable strain on a fragile economy. But at the same time they would like to see Russia preserve its credibility as a bor-

ifications of the unemployed

into account and that "a

piano player, for example,

would not be expected to do

hard farm labour that could

potentially injure his hands."

ment would draw up a "cata-

logue" of suitable jobs for

particular qualifications, Mr.

Hintze said that would be up

to the 16 federal states to

decide individually.

Asked whether the govern-

## HOROSCOPE

-FORECAST FOR -TUESDAY-AUGUST 23, 1994 By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: you can make more progress in Get rid of whatever is causing the future. Be sure to spend your disharmony as the Sun enters money wisely at all times today. Virgo today. Look into any LIBRA: (September 23 to Octo-health concern that has been on ber 22) Study every phase of patience in handling a pending better way of handling your ficivic matter.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) SCORPIO: (October 23 to Discuss future plans with associates on any new projects. Good in regular routines and make organisational work is the key to more progress. Take no risks your success now. Sidestep a with your reputation at this time troublemaker.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Find a better way of handling your responsibilities and they are soon behind you. Meet the ex-SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Contact a trusted adviser who can give you good ideas so that you can adv ance in career activities, which

pectations of a loved one. are so important to you now. GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) CAPRICORN: (December 22 to You can gain your aims now if you schedule your time and acti-vities well. Relax and be conconcentrate on getting ahead in your line of endeavour. Strive for increased happiness in your pertented in the evening with your

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Take no risks where your health is concerned at this time. Put a special talent you have to work and you will get noticed by higher-ups.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21)
Study new interests which could
Study new interests which could
20) Go to the right sources for future. Take treatments to im-

prove profitable for you in the 20) Go to the right sources for prove your appearance and

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Keep busy and accomplish a great deal. Delve into civic tasks and gain more prestige in your activities. Be wary of newcomers.

January 20) This is a good day to

nances. Be more self-as

November 21) Be more enthus

important data you need. A new project needs more study before going ahead with it.

VIRGO: (August 22 to Septem-Birthstone of August: ber 22) Set up a better system so Peridot — Golden Quartz

## Peamuts

in a joint study









Andy Capp

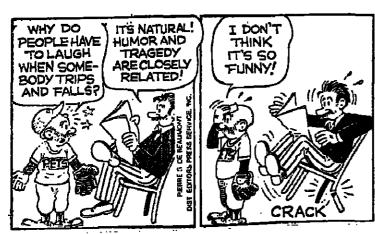








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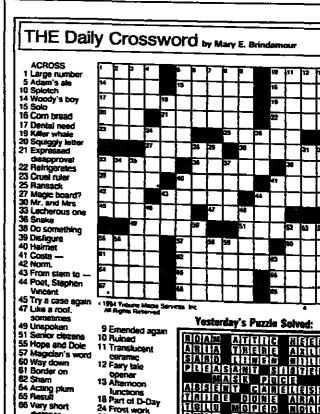
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they had held it do t, it added, producing shown poor improved and higher labour out augur well for the aflation fight.

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and hold back pring investment. sorderly labour cond are therefore & tal to the objective of employment-create nic growth. By is g output growth, sai of the authorities t e the socio-economic nent of the popul it said. report follows office tions that the econom

nore than 25% nis year, after 1.2 g 1993 which follow cars in a row of shrink ut 2.5 per cent grow barely match the Re ulation increase. nomists say mugi er expansion of the ny is needed to make of the ANC-led gr nt's reconstruction nme aimed at creatis nd tackling housing education and one as suffered by the five black majority and: id.

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make more progresi: .. Be sure to spend 🚾 . isely at all times note 🎍 September 23 to 0s Study every phase electary affairs and finding your bandling your bandli e more self-assural O: (October 23 F r 21) Be more enther r routines and nat gress Take no isk reputation at this tist; ould be sorry.

RIUS: (November 2 nber 21) Coman i viser who can give it. s so that you can abareer activities. portant to you bet RN: (December 21 c )) This is a good days te on getting about it of endeavour. Strively happiness in your pe JS: (January 2] E. 19) Keep busy at a great deal. Dela-tasks and gain mat \$ - 12× -

tasks and gain more ewcomers. February 20 to Mark the right sources a eds more study being of August: Golden Quart



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Jordan Times

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e Mark	4.56	4.68	4.75	5.06
ranc	3.93	4.06	4.25	4.43
Franc	5.31	5.43	5.75	6.12
≠ Yen	1.93	2.12	2.12	2.43
n Corrency Unit	5.62	5.78	6.12	6.12

Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Balletin Date: 22/		
and the contract of the contra	Bid	Offer
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French Franc	0.1314	0.1521
Japanese Yen	0.7044	0.7079
Dutch Guilder	0.4014	0.4034
Swedich Kronn	4444	****
Malian Lira*	0-0442	0.0444
Belgian Franc	42334	*****
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Schor Currencies	Des	- 22/8/1994

Belgian Franc	423324	*****	
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Lebanese Lira*	0.040335	0.041875	
Saudi Riyal	0.1845	0.1858	
Keeniti Dinar	2.3150	2.3450	
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Egyptian Pound	0.2040	0.2190	
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TAT Dicham	0.1881	0.1890	
ting Drachma	0.2775	0.3375	
Count Pound	1.4050	1.5150	

## Awad takes charge of Middle East Bank

AMMAN - Former Industry and Trade Secretary General Marwan Awad, who recently resigned his post, has assumed his new post as general manager of the Middle East Investment Bank in Amman.

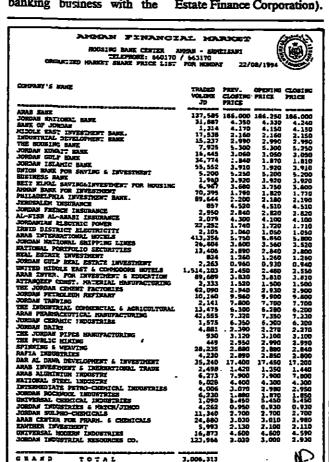
Mr. Awad, who had worked for the ministry for the past three years, had earlier served with the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) and the Arab Institute for Banking Studies.

Mr. Awad, who is the second general manager of the bank that was set up a year ago, received his education in the United States, where he obtained a masters degree in economics, attended numerous training courses in Europe, the United States and Japan and had once served as expert in banking business with the



Marwan Awad Jeddah-based Islamic De-

velopment Bank. The Middle East Investment Bank, which has 18 branches around the King-dom, is the new entity that replaced REFCO (Real Estate Finance Corporation).



3,006,313

# Rabin government rocked by tax storm, stock plunge

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM backfired spectacularly. (R) — Prime Minister Yit-zhak Rabin's Labour govern-ment was mired in a credibility crisis Monday as Israel's public and media blamed their leaders for a stock market selling frenzy that rocked

the country.

An avalanche of selling marked the Sunday reopen-ing of trading on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange, with some shares plummeting as much as 20 per cent. The market ed Monday.

Sunday's spree was caused by Finance Minister Avraham Shohat's shock announcement on Tuesday of plans for a 10 per cent tax on stock profits. The news angered the tens of thousands of investors, big and small, who play Israel's bourse.

"For the first time a small but dangerous crack has opened in Yitzhak Rabin's shield of reliability," said an unprecedented antigovernment blast in Labour's own Davar daily. "The market's severe plunge and the increasingly grave public reaction could deal the prime minister a fatal blow."

Mr. Rabin, widely quoted earlier this year as saying there would be no capitalgains tax, stirred a firestorm of criticism last week as his endorsement of the plan

bullion markets Monday.

One sterling

U.S. \$1.00 costs 1.3741/51

One ounce of gold \$381.60/382.10

"When speaking of a prime minister and finance minister, don't expect them to tell the whole truth when speaking of a devaluation or new tax policy," said Mr. Rabin, whose popularity is based in no small part on a reputation for honesty.

In market-mad Israel the tax announcement shoved issues of war and peace suddenly onto the back burner. Israeli investors lost more than \$3 billion in the Sunday sell-off, traders said.

The cabinet, acting on Mr. Rabin's instructions, checked the market's slide — but widened its own credibility gap — by offering investors a vaguely-worded optional tax

After falling more than nine per cent Sunday the market's benchmark Mishtanim blue chip index rallied slightly Monday, gaining 3.88 points or 2.35 per cent in late trading to 169.06.

The option, whose details are yet to be worked out, offers investors the choice of paying the 10 per cent tax, or deducting losses from profits which would then be taxed at

a higher rate. A poll in Yedioth Aharonoth newspaper showed 61 per cent of Israelis surveyed Sunday said the government

Canadian dollar

Deutschemarks

Dutch guilders

Belgian francs

French francs

Italian lire

Japanese yen

Danish crowns

Swedish crowns

Norwegian crowns

Swiss francs

**LONDON EXCHANGE RATES** 

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London Foreign Exchange and

1.5345/55

1.7228/38

1.2930/40

31.65/69

5.2637/87

1567.8/9.3

97.94/04

7.5389/89

6.7520/70

6.0760/10

\$1.5460/70

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had handled the tax issue

Even within the cabinet criticism was biting. Tourism Minister Uzi Baram said the government's

image had been seriously harmed by the issue. He said that during a Sunday cabinet meetig he had attacked the decision-making process. "The tax is justified, but I

doubt the wisdom of declaring it at a time when the market is already hobbling," he told Israel radio. The blue chip index has lost 35 per cent of its value since January.

Mr. Rabin, keen to mobilise support for his Middle East peace moves and facing reelection in 1996, can ill rightist opposition fresh

The opposition Likud, calling the tax proposals 'hopelessly confused,'' said it would present an alternative of a one per cent tax on all transactions.

Maariv daily scored the government's bandling of the tax as a "grotesque failure." Unnamed ministers were quoted as saying Shohat had "buried" Rabin and "will have to go."

Treasury officials Monday said they hoped the worst was over. But commentators said the mild rally could signal nothing more than a brief respite before further drops.

## Syria to build third refinery with Saudi, Gulf help

DAMASCUS (AFP) -- Syria vill soon build its third major oil refinery with 75 per cent

Syria's Higher Investment Council, headed by Prime Minister Mahmoud Al Zohbi, has approved the refinery project with a daily capacity of 150 tonnes which will also be 25 per cent funded by Syria.

Syria's oil production averaged 550,000 barrels per day (b/d) in 1993, and about 245,000 b/d are refined

Syria has a refinery in Homs, 180 kilometres north of Damascus, and another in Banyas, on the northern

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NEW MINUE

DOD

DOSED

Saudi and Gulf backing, Arab diplomats have said.

The project's cost and location, which will include a petrochemicals plant, was not revealed.

## **NEC** plans to invest \$1b in new chip plant

TOKYO (R) — Strong global personal computer sales and prospects of surging demand for semiconductors have led Japan's biggest chip maker, NEC Corp., to take a gamble on a giant new plant.

NEC said Monday it would invest about \$1 billion in a new production line for 16megabit and 64-megabit dynamic random access memory chips (DRAMS) at either its plant in Scotland or its plant in California.

"The actual investment will be approximately \$1 billion but the location has not been decided yet," NEC spokesman Mark Pearce told Reuters. "Both governments are trying hard to get the NEC contract."

Analysts welcomed the new investment plan, the subject of months of speculation, as they foresee an acute shortage of semiconductors in the late 1990s.

"To get the business prog-ramme for the years 1998-2000 going, NEC has to start preparing now... many other DRAM producers will probably follow suit," said Osamu Otake, president of research company Semicon Research. According to estimates by semiconductor makers, the global market will double to \$200 billion by 2000, aided by strong demand for personal computers and development in multimedia equipment,

fropm \$100 billion in 1996. A more conservative forecast by some Japanese firms puts the figure at \$150 billion. Mr. Otake said the new plant would provide NEC's earnings with an effective shield against the impact of

the high yen. NEC, which last year lost its position as the world's biggest semiconductor chip maker to U.S.-based Intel Corp., already makes 15 per cent of its semicondutors abroad, the highest percentage of any Japanese company. The new plant would raise the figure to some 20 per cent, Mr. Pearce said.
Other analysts said that

even with NEC's new plant, semiconductor supplies will be far short of anticipated giobal demand.

"In view of prospects that demand for 16-megabit DRAMs will likely reach 600 million units a year by 1996, large DRAM makers should each be able to produce five million units a month by then," said Masahiko Ishino, an analyst at Yamaichi Research Institute of Securities and Economics.

"But under the current programmes announced by the makers, they will be making only three million units a month," he added.

"The \$1 billion investment is not surprising, considering Intel plans \$2.4 billion capital investment in 1994,"

Intel recently said \$1.3 billion of that would go to increase its semiconductor production facilities in California and Oregon. Construction could start by year's end.

NEC reported 25.1 billion yen (\$256 million) in group pretax profits in the year which ended in March, a turnaround from a 47.6 biltion yen (\$485 million) loss a year earlier.

The company forecasts a 60 billion yen (\$612 million) group pretax profit for the year ending March 1995. In 1993, NEC had a global

semiconductor share of 7.4 per cent, according to Dataquest Japan.



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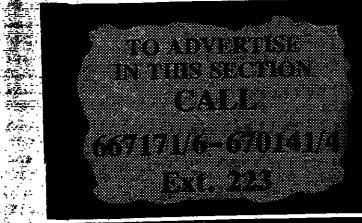
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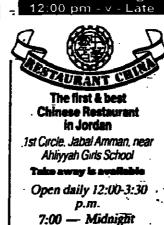
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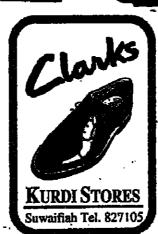






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Opening lead: King of © Don't expect to find the bidding, of freak hands discussed in any de-

tail in the bridge texts. That is because not even experts are sure how to handle them. Do what the urge of the moment tells you and hope for the best. This hand is from a rubber bridge game in New York, with your

reporter sitting South.
Since South intended showing

New Zealand cyclist Brian Fowler crosses the finish line for the silver medal in the 181km cycling road race 21 Aug. in the XV Commonwealth Games in Victoria British Columbia. In the background England cyclist Chris Lillywhite interferes with South African Willem Engelbrecht. Engelbrecht claimed South Africa's first medal after Lillywhite was put back to fourth place for the interference (AFP photo)

## Rendell rewrites script

VICTORIA (AFP) — Kiwi sacrificial lamb Mark Rendell turned the tables on compatriot nearly-man Brian Fowler to grab Commonwealth gold in the men's road race here on Sunday. Meanwhile South African

Willie Engelbrecht won his country's first medal since 1958 — but only after a pro-

The unvaunted Rendell, given the job to protect double silver winner Fowler and reigning champion Gaeme Miller during the event, instead made a late assault after a marathon six-man break to destroy his rivals.

over the 181km Mount Tolmie course, with Fowler clinching a hat-trick of silvers ahead of Engelbrecht. Engelbrecht, a five-times

national champion, was awarded the bronze after a protest over a final sprint tussle.

Fowler, who won silver in the event in 1982 and 1986, had been tipped as one of the

time trial alongside Fowler on Friday, ground up the pace on the penultimate lap to take a minute off his remaining rivals at the bell, guaranteeing victory.

He said: "We discussed our plans last night and I was one of the workers. "As it turned out, I managed to stay away — it was a

real bonus. I turned round because I had hoped Brian was in my wheel. I can't Fowler responded: "Getting silver was as good as winning. It was a team effort

The crucial move of the seven men broke clear.

That was whittled down first to six, when Northern Ireland's Connor Henry misjudged a sharp turn and slid out. He remounted but never

reioined the leaders. Their one-minute lead after 30km grew to over three around the halfway point as the pack, containing big names Phil Anderson of Australia, Miller and England's

Malcolm Elliott, disappointingly failed to react. mounted by Welshman Matthew Postle, who broke off the front of the pack to lead a four-man group in

But he, Mark Walsham of England, Roddy Riddle of Scotland and Australian Matthew Wight never managed to bridge the gap.

allowed to stay in charge rests

with the Rugby League," he

League chief executive

Maurice Lindsay com-

mented: 'Mai has restored

pride in Great Britain in the

last few years and has been

unquestionably one of the

finest coaches in the sport."

#### Reilly heads for Australia but whether or not I'll be

 Great Britain and Halifax rugby league boss Mai Reilly confirmed here on Monday that he was taking over as coach of the top Australian club Newcastle Knights.

Waite at Newcastle but has not yet said when. Reilly still wants to lead Great Britain in the Ashes series in two

months' time.

"I think we've got a good chance of beating the Aussies

steeplechase, and William Signi, the 5,000 world record holder.

Nevertheless, the less renowned Kenyan runners have looked good in practice and still could monopolise the medals in the distance

two weeks, he won his third consecutive title at the European championships and beat South Africa, competing in the world's best in Grand the games for the first time Prix meets at Zurich, since 1958 after being banned Switzerland, and Brussels, because of its apartheid poli-Belgium.

"It's going to be harder to cy, has the capability of performing well in track and

Canada's Stella Umeh performs on the balance beam

during the women's all around gymnastics competi-

tion at the XV Commonwealth Games in Victoria

Canada. Umeh won the gold medal with a total score

of 38.400 (AFP photo)

Christie, defending cham-

pion in the men's 100 metres,

thee 1993 world champion

and 1992 Olympic gold

medallist, is coming off a

series of sparkling European

performances. In the past

"There's a strong possibility the South Africans could match their total of three and the Nigerians always put golds at Cardiff. Wales, 36 years ago. Their top hopes out those decent sprinters. are Elana Meyer, the "I don't plan to let this title women's 10,000-metre silver go. But it's clear I will have to be giving the others plenty of medallist at Barcelona, men's 1,500-metre runner Johan Landsman, who has run 3 minutes, 33.56 seconds, and

respect."
The others include Fredericks, the quiet Namipole vaulter Okkert Brits, bian who was runner-up to Christie at the Barcelona who has cleared 5.85 metres this year. Games; Canada's Bruny Surin, the bronze medallist at the 1990 Commonwealth Games, and Nigerians Olapade Adeniken and Daniel

Monday's programme will be devoted mostly to heats, qualifying, semifinals and the first four events of the heptathlon. The only final will be the men's hammer throw.

## S. Africa wins its first medal, Aussies' swimming streak ends "It's good to be able to start was upheld, but because show the Australians that the score was tied 1-1 when needed two stitches in his face after a fight with American Denis Mitchell following

final.

they're not unbeatable," said

Pickering whose final leg was 55.44. "And it was our team

strength, too, in the relay.

We showed that they won't

Lewis clocked a compara-

tively slwo 4:12.56 to collect

her second gold of these

championships. Third in the

carly stages, she moved

smoothly ahead of Canada's

Stephanie Richardson and

Australian Julie Majer and

moved a half-body length

ahead at halfway. England's Sarah Hardcas-

tle, who won the title in 1986,

ledl the chasers along with

Canada's Nikki Dryden,

swimming in her home city, and who had the fastest qual-

ifying time. With 100 metres to go, it

was Lewis' race although Hardcastle kept chasing, only

to be caught for the silver

medal by another Australian,.

The silver medallist's time was 4:13.06, exactly a half-

second slower than Lewis,

and Hardcastle clocked

anything after the way I swam before in the medley,"

said Lewis, whose other gold

game in the 800 freestyle

relay. "I was despondant af-

ter that race but this makes

fast in lane one and hit the

turn in 30.83. She maintained

that pace down the second

length and, although Overton

appeared to close near the

end, Stephenson held on in

1:02.68. Overton clocked

In the women's backstroke final, Stephenson went off

'I'm more relieved than

Stacey Gartrell.

up for it."

have it all their own way."

the infraction occured, Cal-

The evening began with

Selwyn Tam from nearby

Vancouver dominating Eng-

land's Andrew Hutchinson

10-0 in the 52-kilogramme

Canada's Andrew Bodor-

ow defeated Bidei Jackson of

Nigeria 5-3 at 130 kilogram-

mes, holding on despite suf-fering an ankle injury with 1

minute and 41 seconds left in

the match. The home team's

final victory was an easy one,

with Hohl pinning Reinold

Ozoline of Australia with

3:10 remaining in teh match.

holds Canadian citizenship

and trains in Calgary, had

nothing but compliments for

the Canadians because really they've come far in the inter-

national wrestling scene," he

said. "They've come up to the top five in the world." Moore said eighth-best was

probably a realistic assess-

ment, but he acknowledged

that the programme in Cana-

da has come to a long way.

we've gone from hoping to do

well at the Commonwealth

Games to expecting to do

In fact, he said, it's harder

for a wrestler to win the

Canadian national cham-

pionship than it is to win the Commonwealth gold.

TRACK

The Britons are here with

their best - Linford Christie,

Sally Gunnell and Colin Jack-

son. The Kenyans brought

their young runners in place

of their distance stars. And

South Africa is poisaed to

win its first gold medal in 36

That's the overall picture

as track and field begins at

the Commonwealth Games

Monday.

well," he said.

"Over the last 15 years,

"You should be proud of

the Canadian programme.

Huntchinson, who also

the Zurich meet and skipped

door champion at 60 metres.

also is subpar physically. He

had surgery last month to

remove cartilage from his left

knee. If the Commonwealth

Games had been anywhere

but in Canada, it is unlikely

Surin would be competing.

Surin, Adeniken and Effiong

compete at their best, the 100

could be the marquee event

of the track and field. Effiong

beat Christie last month at

Linz, Austria. The first round

and quarterfinals will be

Monday, with the semifinals and final Tuesday.

Effiong also are doubling in the 200, and could face Eng-land's John Regis, the 1990

silver medallist. Regis,

however, is doubtful because

of a strained Achilles, suffer-

ing at the European Cham-

The schedules for Gunnel

and Jackson will not be as

difficult as for the sprinters,

each having to run only

twice, in the semifinals and

Gunnell, the world record

holdelr and Olympic and

world champion in the

women's 400 hurdles, begins

defense of her Common-wealth title in Wednesday's

semis. Jackson, competing

for Wales, is the world

record-holder, world cham-pion and defending Com-

monwealth champion in the

110-metre hurdles. His semi-

final heat is Monday, with the

final Tuesday. Kenya, which has domin-

ated the men's distance races

at recent Olympics and

not send its best runners.

such as Moses Kiptanui,

world record-holder at two

miles and the 3,000-metre

World Championships, did

Fredericks, Adeniken and

If Christie, Fredericks,

Surin, the 1993 world in-

the Brussels event.

der's victory stood.

VICTORIA, British Col-umbia (AP) — South Africa, in the Commonwealth Games for the first time in 36 years, earned its first medal Sunday after a controversial cycling finish. Australia's 10race winning streak in the pool ended in stunning fashion wiht three losses, and Canada swept all five wrestling finals.

Mark Rendell, a plumber, won the gruelling men's 181.9-kilometre cycling road race in 4 hours, 46 minutes, 7.91 seconds, leading a 1-2 New Zealand finish.

South African Willem Engelbrecht was awarded the bronze medal after a protest by Australian Grant Rice against England's Chris Lillywhite, the original third-place

Following the appeal, Lillywhite, who was accused of impeding Rice' progress, was dropped to fifth, Rice was elevated from fifth to fourth and Engelbrecht was moved

from fourth to third. "I feel vindicated," Rice said. "I was in third place with 100 metres to race and Lillywhite reached out and grabbed me by the shorts to give himself a sling past me....There was no reason for Lillywhite to do what he did. I had ridden with the guy for four hours and he does

this to me.' Lillywhite said he fended off Rice because "the Australian saw me coming and tried

to put me into the wall."

The smiling Engelbrecht was presented his medal by Michael Fennell, newly elected president of the Commonwealth Games Federa-

The last time the South Africans competed in the games, at Cardiff, Wales in 1958. They won 31 medals— 13 golds, 10 silvers and 8

Rendell won by more than two minutes over teammates Brian Fowler, who earned his third consecutive silver medal and his sixth medal in a career dating to the 1982 Commonwealth Games.

Fowler, a three-time Olympian, dedicated the race to his late father.

Trevor Fowler died in a velodrome accident only two days before the 1990 games. It's four years later and I'm at the games again," the emotional Fowler, the New Zealand flag bearer, said before Sunday's race "It has brought it all back. It's hard to forget about a thing like that. There are a lot of memories that are flooding

back right now." In the women's cycling road race, Kathryn Watt, the 1992 Olympic champion from Australia, easily defended her Commonwealth title, beating runner-up Linda Jackson of Canada by 30

seconds. Watt completed the 96.3kilometre race - nine laps of a 10.7-kilometre circuit around the University of Victoria and adjacent Mount Tolmie Park — in 2:48:04.73. It was the second gold medal of the 1994 games for

Watt. She was part of the Australian team that won the team time trial Friday. Jackson, who lives in Los Altos Hills, Calif., and gave up a career in investment banking in San Francisco to

pursue cycling, was delighted at finishing second. "The thrill of coming up the homestretch with the crowd cheering gave me goosebumps," said Jackson, who is from Ottawa. "I don't regret it (being a cyclist) for a

In gymnastics, Neil Thomas, England's flag bearer at the opening ceremonies, won the men's all-around title with 55.950 points. Thomas, a two-time silver medallist in floor exercise at the world championships, also had gotten a bronze in Saturday's

team event. Canada's Stella Umeh, 19, who has been competing in gymnastics since she was 6, to get a flying start.

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Gillian Clark of England returns a shot during the women's double of the team final against Malaysia at the Commonwealth Games in Victoria Clark and her partner Julie Bradbury defeated Malaysia to win the

gold medal (AFP photo) won the women's all-around title with 38.400 points. Umeh, a high school student from Toronto, was first in the vault, balance beam and uneven bars and finished

second in the floor exercise.

Stoyel, winner of the floor

exercise, finished second

overall with 38.037 points.

In shooting, gold medals went to Canadian brothers

Mark and Matthew Bedling-

ton in the men's pairs running

target, Canadians Sharon

Bowes and Karen Morton in

the women's pairs smallbore

rifle, three position, India's

Jaspal Rana and Ashok Pan-

dit in the men's pairs centre-

fire pistol, and Australia's

Albert Bowden and Geoffrey

Grenfell in the Fullbore rifle

badminton title, upsetting Malaysia 15-4, 16-18, 18-16.

**SWIMMING** 

ended Australia's wining

streak and England collected

two golds, by backstroker

Adam Ruckwood and the

women's freestyle relay team

Sunday as the rest of the

Commonwealth hit back at

the Australian dominance of

two of the five golds, Hayley

Lewis - a five-time winner

at Auckland four years ago

the games and Nicole

Stevenson upsetting country-

woman Elli Overton.

previous 10 finals.

The Australians won only

collecting her second of

They had won nine of the

Lewis won the 400 frees-

tyle and Stevenson trium-

phed in the 100 backstroke,

increasing Australia's total to

11 golds in 15 events. Eng-

land now has three in the

Clarke's victory in the 100-

metre freestyle brought a

huge sigh of relief to Cana-

dian swim fans, afraid they

would not see a home vic-

tory. The Australians, in fact,

had boasted before the games

that their team would won

every gold.
"By my winning a gold,

now maybe we can relax and

we can swim our races with-

out the pressure of people

wondering when we are going to win one," said Clarke, the

first non-Australian to win

the 100 butterfly Saturday

after losing the lead in the

closing metres, ended the

Aussie streak with a powerful

second lap swim after Austra-

lia's Andy Baildon appeared

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Clarke, who won a silver in

the 100 free in 24 years.

pool and Canada one.

the swimming pool.

Canada's Stephen Clarke

England won the team...

Australia's Rebecca

stralian who was the fastest qualifier, attacked in the last few metres, but Clarke won by an arms length in 50.21. Fydler was 0.30 behind and

50.71. al it was more a sense of relief than anything," Clarke said. thinking what might have been (in the butterfly final). I

the halfway mark.

lett the While Ruckwood finished in a games' record 2:00.79, Draxinger managed to hold on to silver in 2:02.19, with

Australia's Scott Miller taking the bronze in 2:02.43. Canada's Gary Anderson set the previous games mark of 2:01.69 four years ago at Auckland.

ence while watching the women's 400 freestyle team

ting even better."
The Australian relay foursome were expected to at least make a sweep of the women's events Sunday but

dart and Pickering. The Canadian team of Marianne Limpert, Shannon Shakespeare, Jessica Amey and Glencora Maughan led for most of the race until

freestyle champion Picker-Pickering, who set off in third, more than a second behind, turned up the power to charge past the Canadian and lead the team to victory in a games' record 3:46.23. Australia set the previous mark of 3:46.85 four years

3:47.25 for the bronze.

Baildon, who won four golds at Auckland, clocked 23.66 to lead at the turn by a half-body length, but Clarke powered through to take the

was frustrated."

In a see-sawing men's 200 backststroke, Ruckwood, the fastest qualifier; led at the first turn but lost the lead to ... Canada's Kevin Draxinger at

andra Bennett, Claire Hud-

lead with 25 metres remain-

Chris Fydler, another Au-Baildon took the bronze in

the lead by 0.24 at the third turn and produced a burst of power early on the fourth lap

win the final gold of the day.
"It's been at the top level since then and now it's get-

Maughan took on 100-metre

"When I got the gold med-"I was up late last night

The Englishman regained

"The spirit in the English team has been fantastic since Karen Pickering won the opening gold medal," Ruck-wood said at a news confer-

were caught by the English squad of Susan Rolph, Alex-

Karen van Wirdum also pased Maughan to snatch the silver for Australia' in 3:46.73. Canada clocked

1:02.90 and England's Katherine Osher gained the bronze in 1:03.27, edging South African team captain Marianne Kriel.

WRESTLING If there is such a thing as a home mat advantage, Čanada certainly had it. The host country won nine of 10 gold medals in wrestling at the Commonwealth

Games, swept along by a whooping, hollering home crowd that packed the Juan de Fuca Recreation Centre Arena. Canada won all five matches Sunday night, running their streak to nine in a row.

The only gold they didn't win came in the first final Saturday, when Paul Ragusa tore had his 48-kilogramme match with Nigeria's Jacob Isaac called off because of injury. The nine golds matched

Canada's performance the last time wrestling was part of the Commonwealth Games eight years ago in Scotland.
"We thought that we had a strong team," Canadian coach Rob Moore said. 'We're sending some strong

competitors to the world championships, too." Five of the Canadian winners will compete in the World Championships, which start Tuesday in Istanbul -Justin Abdoú at 82 kilogrammes, Rob Dawson at 56 kilogrammes, Scott Bianco at 90 kilogrammes, Marty Calder at 62 kilogrammes and David Hohl at 74 kilogram-

Ragusa would have gone. too, if not for the injury. Two of Canada's victories

Sunday were extremely close calls. At 90 kilos, Bianco fell behind Nigeria's Kodei Vic-tor 3-0, then rallied and scored the tying point with thre seconds to play.

"From then on there was no way he was going to beat me," Bianco said. Victor was so upset he didn't come to the interview At 62 kilogrammes, Calder

scored the winning point with 17 seconds remaining in a tough 3-1 victory over John Mellins of England. Both Victor and Melling filed protests, but failed to

change the outcome of the keep the Commonwealth title Melling's protest alleging than the European title," Christic said. "Frankie Calder was guilty of a false Fredericks will be after me

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Adeniken, sixth at the '92

sprint so I had to go early."

and it was great to have New Zealand in the top two race came after 25km when

The 25-year-old plumber clocked 4hr 46mins 7secs

emotional stakes by dedicating the race to his late father before the start. But Rendell, who won bronze in the 100km team

pursuit.

HALIFAX, England (AFP)

Reilly, who played for one of the top Sydney clubs Man-ly in the 1970s, has agreed a two-year contract with the Knights, a decision described by the Rugby Football League as "a big blow for the game in Britain."

He will replace David

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4KJ107653 The bidding:
West North East South

1 0 Pass 1 0 2 4

2 0 Pass 3 NT 4 4

Dbl Pass Pass Pass

both suits, there was no reason not to conserve space by starting with the longer suit. Despite the fact that the bidding was forced to the four-

ace of trumps and was gratified to find that both defenders followed. A low club was led and, when West discarded, the contract was home. Dummy's ace won, a club was finessed and a club was ruffed with the table's last trump. Declarer returned to hand with a heart ruff, cashed the king of clubs and simply continued clubs until West ruffed.

Making forwards downlast. Making four-odd doubled.

West missed the last chance to defeat the contract. When declarer leads a low club toward the ace, West must ruff with the master west must run with the master trump. Now declarer is short an en-try to hand to establish the clubs. Indeed, to hold the losses to down one, declarer must jettison dummy's

ace of clubs and later concede a club to East. Try it if you don't believe

West led the king of diamonds and East cost the defense a crucial tempo by overtaking with the ace to shift to the queen of spades. Declarer ducked and, after some thought, East reverted to diamonds, declarer ruffing.

ruffing.
Declarer decided East's problem

was whether or not to continue with

a trump and, therefore, trumps were 3-2. So declarer elected to cash the

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## Matthaeus takes crucial decision

BONN (R) — The aftermath of Germany's disappointing World Cup and the futures of Lothar Matthaeus and Stefan Efenberg dominated the start of the German league soccer season at the weekend.

While champions Bayern Munich posted an expected 3-1 victory over Bochum, the most important event of the weekend took place when the 33-year-old Matthaeus announced he was staying on as captain of the national

German football suffered a major blow to its confidence after the national team's poor performance in the United States which culminated in a quarter-final defeat by Bul-

Matthaeus, who has 117 caps to his name, was not expected to leave at such a low point. His experience will be vital to coach Berti Vogts. who is expected to start building a younger team for the 1996 European cham-

pionships in England. Barring injury, Matthaeus is now almost certain to take over from former England goalkeeper Peter Shilton as the most capped player of all time. Shilton won 125 caps.

"I'm going to go on for two more years. I am sure I can help the team and I'm determined to bring it back to the top again," Matthaeus said. 'I want to be involved in getting back respect for German football again."

Effenberg was at the centre of attention when he played his first league game in Ger-many after being sent home from the World Cup for mak-

## Edmundo scores. booked, misses two penalties

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) -Edmundo, the bad boy of Brazilian soccer, scored one goal, missed two penalties and was then booked as his Palmeiras side beat Interna-cional' 2-0 in a Brazilian soccer championship match at the weekend:

Edmundo, suspended twice this year by coach Vanderley Luxemburgo for indiscipline, began an eventful afternoon by giving his team a first-half lead. Rivaldo added a second

goal in the 39th minute and Edmundo missed the first penalty on the stroke of halftime when his weak shot was saved by goalkeeper Sergio.

The second penalty, awarded in the 69th minute after Edmundo himself had been tripped, was almost a терlica, with Sergio again

saving.

Edmundo, sent off five times last year, is one of the' country's most talented forwards but has been let down by his behaviour and failed to make Brazil's World Cup squad. His afternoon was completed with a booking for dissent.

The win was the third for Palmeiras in three games in the Brazilian championship and kept them top of Group D. The top four teams in each of the four six-team groups go through to a

second stage.
South American cup finalists Sao Paulo were thrashed 4-0 by Botafogo in Group B, with Botafogo striker Tulio scoring a hat-trick.

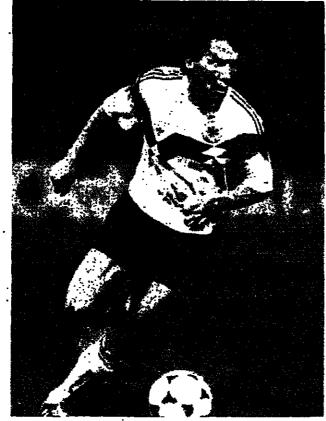
Sao Paulo face Argentina's Velez Sarsfield in the first leg of Libertadores cup final on Wednesday and fielded a reserve team for the second

weekend running. Santos coach Serginho, who missed a training session on Friday in protst at a delay in th payment of his salary, returned to the bench in time to lead his team to a 2-0 win over Vasco da Gama, who are coached by former Braxil trainer Sebastiao Lazaroni. The win put Santos, Pele's

**Jordan Times** Tel: 667171

Cinema

former club, top of Group C.



Lothar Matthaeus

ing an obscene gesture at the

crowd.
The midfielder, returning to the Bundesliga from Italy, was welcomed home by a mixture of whistles and humour from the fans in his Borussia Moenchengladbach side's 1-1 draw at Schalke.

The most amusing sight of the weekend was an opened umbrella in the Schalke crowd with a buge hand on its metal peak. The middle finger pointed to the sky in memory of the gesture which caused Vogts to banish Effenberg from the World Cup and end his international

It will take a long time before Effenberg's fatal finger in Dallas is forgotten by the German football world. But the midfielder took the pressure of returning home

Vogts had said he will not pick Effenberg again for the national team. But if the talented midfielder has a good Bundesliga season and avoids trouble, he may still have a chance of returning to international football.

"I didn't expect to be cheered by 70,000 people," Effenberg said. "I knew the whistles would be there. But in the second half I hardly heard them."

The German team play their first international of the season on Sept. 7 in a friendly against Russia in Moscow. An intensive Bundesliga fix-ture list will give the likes of Matthaeus little time to worry about that game.

Bayern continue their cam-

paign at Freiburg on Tuesday evening while Borussia Dortmund, 4-0 victors over newlypromoted 1860 Munich at the weekend, travel to Cologne.

Effenberg will find out how Belgian central defender Phihis home fans react to his ence when Moenschengladbach play hosts to Karl-sruhe on Wednesday.

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Newcastle's Andy Cole (right) tries to get ing their Enq past Leicester's Nicky Mohan (left) dur- (AFP photo)

directed crosses.

## Newcastle resume normal service

But Leicester had no

answer to Beardsley, who created an opening for Albert

three minutes into the second

period. The Belgian received

only a yellow card from the

referee for the most obvious

of dives as Ward came out.

Scott Sellars was allowed to

advance to the edge of the box, where he fed Beardsley

in space on the left. When

Beardsley put the ball in low,

Cole was there to divert it

Beardsley joined Cole on the

scoresheet. Newcastle teased

and tormented the Leicester

Seven minutes later,

But int he 51st minute

LONDON (AFP) — Strikers Andy Cole and Peter Beardsley were back in the groove as Newcastle launched their Premiership campaign with a 3-1 win at newly promoted Leicester on Sunday.

The pair, who scored 65 goals between them last term, opened their accounts for the new season with emphatic finishes to hand the play-off winners an immediate lesson in the realities of life in the top flight.

But Newcastle boss Kevin Keegan's day was spoiled by Beardsley's withdrawal through injury and the late sending off of keeper Pavel Sraicek for bringing down Julian Joachim in full flight.

Two early thrusts by the live-wire Joachim boded well for Leicester, but Newcastle soon assumed control. One of their new recruits,

lippe Albert, was poised and controlled at the back. He was a threat every time he moved forward and tested

goalkeeper Gavin Ward's alertness with a fierce 30-yard Newcastle, for all the space they were creating for Fox and Swiss new boy Marc

France (AP) — Argenti-na's Julio Cesar Vasquez

handed American Ron

"Winky" Wright his first

defeat as he took a 12-

round unanimous decision

to defend his WBA junior

middleweight title Sunday

night.
Vasquez knocked Wright
Down five times in the fight
including twice in the final

round to increase his re-

cord to 51-1. Wright is now

In the battle between two

lefthanders, Wright was

quicker and had a number

of right jabs that snapped Vasquez's head back.

However the 22-year-old from St. Petersburg, Flor-

ida lacked the power of Vasquez who needed only

a few punches to even

Panama's Reuben Torres

left again, Lee stipped the ball mot Beardsley and he. turned brilliantly into space before firing under Ward from 15 yards. Leicester were offered a route back into the game when Albert conceded a penalty but Smicek down to his left, easily saved Mark

into the net.

Draper's poor spot-kick. And 16 minutes from time, Newcastle went further ahead. Mohan slipped, Fox pounced, and his cross to-

Vasquez defends junior middleweight title

Jan Ovesen scored it 115-110 and Juan Vargas of Venezuela had it 113-110

The second round

showed the way the fight

would go. Wright dominated the early minute with

jabs and a good right hook. But Vasquez was never

hurt and caught Wright

with a good left hook with a

minute left to send the

American down. Wright

was up quickly but the pat-

tern had been established.

The fighters ended up in

good exchange. Twice

Vasquez went down that

were ruled slips and he lost

his mouthpiece. However

was beginning to slow down in the middle rounds

but he was waiting for his

opportunity.

It seemed that Vasquez

he was never in trouble.

for Vasquez.

Hottiger on the right, failed to make full use with a succlinically turned home. cession of hopeful rather than

spilled Steven Agnew's shot. Keegan said afterwards: "I thought the referee had a

in the Premiership."

Of Albert's eventual debut Keegan said: "We bought him for what he is. When he

gets the ball, he goes. I think he will score goals — he's

minute and Andy Thompson replied for Graham Taylor's Wolves.

wards substitute Robbie Elliott, in acres of space, was

Five minutes from the end Straicek received his marching orders, and substitute keepere Mike Hooper — the thrid change Newcastle had made -- was beaten in injury time. Joachim turning home the rebound after the keeper

leaves iail. greta game - everything he did was right. Good game, good atmosphere, and it's lovely to see Leicester back

Leicester boss Brian Little commented: "We knew it was a tough start. You've got to be able to handle defeat and not let it upset you."
In the first division, prom-

otion favourites Wolves needed a second-half penalty to salvage a point at Notts County. County led through Michael Simpson in the 35th

seventh round when

another left put Wright

down and started him

bleeding from the nose. Wright was in deep trou-

ble in the ninth round.

With a minute 25 seconds

left, he again was floored

and staggered up. He was

on the verge of going down

again but managed to sur-

vive with some movement

and some timely clinches

and holding.

Both fighters took it easy

over the next two rounds

With a minute left, Vas-quez caught Wright again with a left that sent him

down for a full eight count.

Less than 30 seconds later

Wright was down again. He picked himself up and avoided the third knock-

down in the round to finish

the fight standing.

before the final round.

## Tyson to get offer for first fight

HONG KONG (AFP) — Mike Tyson will be offered a 100 million dollar purse by the organisers of Mohammad Ali's "Rumble In The Jungle" to stage his first fight in Hong Kong after leaving pris-

Bill Dobbins, head of Hemdale Special Events which is presenting Herbie Hide's world heavyweight title defence in Hong Kong on October 23, said here Monday he expected Tyson to take on Lennox Lewis or Tommy Morrison in his first

Dobbins, one of the planners of Ali's legendary 1974 fight in Zaire, said there would probably be a \$100 million purse and that the territory had a good chance

of landing the event.

Morrison is the first chal-lenger for Hide's World Boxing Organisation title. With the October 23 bill having a total purse of 100 million HK dollars (\$13 million) it is already being billed as the biggest individual sports

event staged in Asia.
The Hide-Morrison fight is being co-promoted by Barry Hearn's Marchroom Organisation and Top Rank Inc of the United States, whose chairman Bob Arum is battling with Don King to represent Tyson when the fighter

"We have an understanding with Tyson that we will get first refusal," said Dob-bins who added that "the eyes of the world" were on Hong Kong so it would be a good place for the bout.

Tyson was jailed for six years in March 1992 for rap-ing black beauty queen De-



Mike Tyson

siree Washington. With remissions, the former undisputed world champion could be out of jail in seven or eight months and fight sometime

next year.

The Hong Kong Stadium will have a 45,000 capacity for the Hide-Morrison fight which might tempt U.S. promoters looking for an attractive foreign setting for Tyson's first fight.

Ringside seats for the October 23 bill will cost 3,900. HK dollars (\$500). Also on the bill is an exhibition fight between former British title hope Frank Bruno and American Ray Mercer.

California-based Mexican Rafael Ruelas will put his International Boxing Federation lightweight title against Briton Billy Schwer, and U.S. fighter Zachary Padilla will make the fifth defence of his WBO junior welterweight title against Britain's Commonwealth Champion Ross

The Hide-Morrison bout will be at 11:00 a.m. (0300 GMT) so that it can be shown at a prime time slot in the United States.

## Denmark bans WBO, Bredahl gives up title

COPENHAGEN (R) — The European Boxing Union Danish Professional Boxing (EBU) to reconsider their Federation (DPBF) on Mon-day banned all World Boxing Organisation (WBO) fights in Denmark, with Dane Johnny Bredahl relinquishing his WBO superflyweight ti-

The executive committee of the DPBF has unanimously agreed to ban with immediate effect any further WBO championship contests from the federation said in a state-

It said it would also withdraw all Danish boxers licensed by the DPBF, including Breadahl, frm WBO ratings lists as well as forbidding DPBF licence holders from acting as referees in WBO championship fights. The decision was promp-

ted by the desire to avoid future scandals of the kind which have marred our relationships with WBO, including the manipulation of boxers and the exploitation of managers and promoters who are obliged to agree to outrageous terms," the statement said.

It slammed the WBO as. "an organisation which no longer acts for the benefit of the sport it was ostensibly created to serve" and called upon fellow members of the

affiliation with WBO.

The Danish move follows similar action by the French Boxing Federation (FFB) in .. 1990 after a WBO title fight. between U.S. WBO lightmiddleweight title holder John David Jackson and French challenger Martin Camara in Deauville ended in confusion.

In the incident a no-contest floored the American for a count of nine and supporters and officials crowded the ring, stopping the fight.

Promotor Mogens Palle. who virtually monopolises professional boxing in Denmark, has reportedly had a 🖟 long and difficult relationship with WBO.

His stable of fighters in recent years has included former WBO cruiser champion. Magne Havnaa of Norway and Danes Gert Bo Jacobsen and Johnny Bredahi's brother Jimmy, ex-WBO welterweight and superfeatherweight champions re-

spectively.

Paile has said he feit both Havnaa and Jacobsen were manoeuvred by the WBO into giving up their titles and feared the same was going to happen with Johnny Bredahl, who is also in his stable.

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populated province.

Kurds say they killed 15 Iranians

western Iran. The Democratic Party of Iranian Kurdistan said one of its fighters was killed in 90 minutes of fighting

last Wednesday against members of the ideologically-

motivated Revolutionary Guards near Mahabad, a Kurdish

city 540 kilometres northwest of Tehran. The party, in a

statement sent to Reuters from its Paris office, listed the

names of 15 men killed in the clash and said they belongs to

the third brigade of the 16th Qods Division of the guards corps based in the Caspian coast province of Gilan. Kurdish rebels have waged a low intensity guerrilla struggle

against the Islamic government in Tehran since they were

largely driven across the border into Iraq by the army and

Revolutionary Guards after major offensives in the early

1980s. Interior Minister Ali Mohammad Besharati said last

year the government was setting up a special strike force to deal with security problems in Iran's main Kurdish-

CAIRO (AP) - Police killed three suspected militants

Monday in a dawn raid on their hideout in southern Egypt.

security officials said. The sources said the three men were

shot to death while trying to escape from a rented apartment in Al Zahraa, a suburb of the city of Sohag, 400 kilometres south of Cairo. One of the three, Ahmad

Nonreddin, was the leader of a military wing of Al Gamaa

Al Islamiyah, or the Islamic Group, said a police source.

The Islamic Group has been the major movement behind

the 2½-year campaign to unseat the government and turn Egypt into an Islamic fundamentalist state. More than 390 people died in the violence.

Vienna seizes Iran-bound military equipment

VIENNA (AFP) — Austrian customs agents seized 10

electronic guiding systems manufactured specially for

American tanks and destined for Iran, a spokesman at

Vienna's airport said Monday. The military equipment

seized last July 27 is valued at \$10 million, the spokesman

said. He added that the material, made for M60 A-3

American tanks, was transported to Vienna aboard trucks

from Ljubljana, the capital of Slovenia, and was to be loaded on an Iran Air flight at Vienna airport. Customs

ngents became suspicious after noticing that the packages

containing the guiding systems were simply marked as "equipment." Special authorisation must be given by

Austrian authorities before any military equipment can be

transported through the neutral country. Customs author-

ities here said they believe the guiding systems were manufactured by Elektrooptica (ISKRA), a company in Ljubljana, and that an investigation into the illegal traffic

**Police hold Kurdish demonstrators** 

PARIS (AFP) - A number of Kurds arrested following a

violent demonstration in central Paris overnight were still

being questioned by French police Monday morning, the Paris police headquarters said. In all, 198 protestors were

arrested during a demonstration during which demonstra-tors called on the Turkish government "stop the massacre

of the Kurdish people." Turkey is currently involved in a

military campaign against Kurdish insurgents in the east and south east of the country. The Paris demonstrators also

called on the French government to intervene in the

dispute. Violent clashes between police and protestors broke out at around 04:00 (02:00 GMT) Monday after

about 100 Kurdish protestors carrying mattresses joined

the protest, saying they intended to stay on the streets all

night. Police said they have begun legal proceedings against 13 protestors for "violence against the forces of law and order" and arson. Six officers were injured in the overnight

clashes, along with several demonstrators, said Paris

**Danish tourist contracts cholera in Turkey** 

COPENHAGEN (AFP) - A Danish tourist contracted

cholera while on holiday in western Turkey, the Danish Serology Institute said Monday. The 23-year-old man, who has not been named, caught the disease in July but it was

only identified as cholera on his return home, the institute

said. A spokesman did not specify exactly where in

northwest Turkey the man contracted the disease, which is spread via polluted water. The institute said a German national had also contracted cholera while travelling in

Japan pledges continued aid for Palestinians

TOKYO (AFP) - Japan pledged Monday to continue

providing economic aid to promote Palestinian self-rule on the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, government officials suid. Japanese Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Yohei

Kono met the visiting Palestinian minister for economic aid and trade, Ahmed Qouriea, in Tokyo Monday and assured

him the money would be forthcoming, the officials said. In September, Japan pledged \$200 million over two years in aid for Palestinian autonomy, of which \$50 million has been disbursed. Mr. Qouriea appealed for Japanese assistance in

the fields of public welfare, education and medicine as well as to improve social infrastructure, the officials said. Mr. Kono expressed Japan's readiness to comply with the

Rabin orders \$5m road around Jericho

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin on

Monday ordered that \$5 million be allocated for a road

around Jericho after Jewish settlers complained they were in danger when driving through the Palestinian self-rule

enclave, officials said. Jordan Valley settlers sent a letter to

General Ilan Biran, military chief for the West Bank, on

Sunday, saying the presence of hundreds of freed Palesti-

man prisoners in Jericho put them at risk. Settlers going to

Jerusalem have to drive through Jericho, and an Israeli girl was slightly injured when Palestinians stoned a bus on Sunday, military sources said. Work on a Jericho by-pass has suspended since May because of a lack of funds.

Qadhafi Prize goes to human rights union

TRIPOLI (AFP) - The \$250,000 Qadhafi Prize has been

awarded to an African human rights union, a Libyan official announced Sunday. The award named after the

country's leader Muammar Qadhafi will be handed over

here on Aug. 30 to the Union Interafricaine des Droits de

l'Homme, which was founded in 1992 in Quagadougou, Burkina Faso. The organisation is made up of human rights

groups from Burkina Faso, Benin, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Guinea Bissau, Ivory Coast, Mali,

Mauritania, Niger, Rwanda, Burundi, Senegal, Togo,

Zaire and Chad. The Qadhafi Prize, created in 1989, has

previously been awarded to Nelson Mandela, the children

of the Palestinian intifada, the Native Americans, the African AIDS centre, and the children of Bosnia.

Turkey this summer.

request, the officials said.

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# Iran exports more than \$1b in carpets

TEHRAN (R) - Iran earned \$1.44 billion in one year through exports of carpets, its top export earner after oil, newspapers reported. They quoted Ali Said-Loo, deputy commerce minister and director of the Export Development Centre of Iran, as saying carpet exports from March 1993 through March 1994 made up 42 per cent of Iran's non-oil exports. In the first quarter of the new year, which started in March, carpet exports reached \$959 million, a 16 per cent increase compared with the same period in 1993.

## **Police restore NEWS IN BRIEF** calm in Rafah NICOSIA (R) — Iranian Kurdish guerrillas said on Monday they killed 15 Revolutionary Guards in a clash in

RAFAH, Gaza Strip (Agencies) — Calm returned to the southern town of Rafah on Monday after two days of violence in which Palestinian police shot dead a teenager

and wounded nine people. A curfew clamped on the town and refugee camp late Sunday was lifted early Monday, after the worst clashes so far between the Palestinian police and civilians in the new self-rule areas.

Violence flared Sunday when hundreds of people marched on the house of a Palestinian policeman who shot dead 16-year-old Salah Al Shaer late Saturday.

They threw stones at police who tried to stop the march. Police fired in the air and at random, wounding six people including a 10-year-old boy, witnesses said.

Shaer's family were making funeral arrangements Monday after having called for Palestinians to revenge their son's death and comparing the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) with the former Israeli occupying forces.

Palestinian police admitted he was killed by mistake when they were in pursuit of criminals. In another incident Saturday they shot and wounded three Palestinians in a car.

Police commander Brigadier General Ghazi Jabali and Attorney General Khaled Al Qidrah went to Rafah to try to work out a truce between the two sides.

"The situation is gloomy," said local police prosecutor Ahmad Mubayyed earlier. The policeman who fired, a

member of the extended Abu Samahdaneh clan, was arrested. But members of the Shaer clan stormed the block

BUKAVU, Zaire (Agencies)

- Beaten back in attempts to cross into this already teem-

ing frontier town, thousands of Rwandans trekked south

Monday to another border

crossing in hopes of finding

About 20,000 frightened

men, women and children

were moving towards an new-

ly reopened bridge across the

Ruzizi River about 10

kilometres south of Bukavu.

a spokesman for the U.N. High Commissioner for Re-

fugees (UNHCR) said.

The spokesman, Ray Wilkinson, estimated that at least 45,000 would cross the

bridge in the next few days, including thousands still en

route to Buakvu from villages

and towns in southwestern

Zairean authorities

reopened the crossing Sun-day after angry Rwandans

overwhelmed Ethiopian

U.N. peacekeepers at a

closed bridge leading to Bukavu and clashed with Zai-

rean soldiers, who beat them

back with canes and sticks.

The riot began less than an hour after French troops

withdrew from the Rwandan

Mr. Wilkinson, speaking to

reporters at Goma, Zaire,

another border town about

90 kilometres north of Buka-

vu, said most of the newly

arriving refugees were heading to the village of Hongo,

between Bukavu and its air-

side of the bridge.

Rwanda.

sanctuary in Zaire.

Confusion reigns in

Rwanda-Zaire zone

people.

and in the ensuing melee eight people suffered gunshot wounds.

"The curfew will be lifted after a reconciliation. We want to stop the bloodshed," the prosecutor said. The initial shooting is being investi-

"We want to check the circumstances. The policemen should shoot in the air or at the legs," Mr. Mubayyed said in a telephone interview.

The curfew was the second imposed on a Gaza town by Palestinian authorities since the Strip achieved autonomy from Israel in mid-May. Israel frequently used curfews for crowd control during its 27-year-old occupation of

Meanwhile, a Palestinian security official from the selfrule enclave of Jericho was arrested by the Israeli army in the occupied West Bank on Sunday after soldiers found a pistol in his car, his commander said.

Israel Radio identified him as Ibrahim Jara, a member of the Palestinian secret police in Jericho.

Jibril Al Rajoub, head of preventive security for the Palestinian self-rule administration in Jericho, told Renters his man was arrested in the West Bank town of Jenin. Israel does not allow Palestinians to carry weapons

areas of Gaza and Jericho. "There is no justification for holding him because the weapon found in the car did not belong to him," Mr. Raioub said

outside the autonomous

It was not immediately clear whether the Israeli army would file any charges against the man.

But efforts to reroute the

refugees inside Rwanda were

mired in confusion and only a

handful managed to cross the

reopened bridge by nightfall.
The U.S. relief agency

Care was setting up a new

camp at Hongo, about 18

kilometres from the border to

accommodate up to 80,000

"We'll be setting up the camp from scratch today,"

Care coordinator Mark

Richardson told reporters.

service to pick up refugees massed at the border."

the early morning at the Ruzizi-2 border bridge to fer-

ry across Rwandans, many of

them children, separated

from their families by Zaire's

closure of the border at

But by late morning, an

impatient UNHCR field

officer was yelling into his radio that trucks had not

The latest surge of refugees

was prompted by the pull-out

of French troops from south-

west Rwanda. The refugees,

most of them from the major-

ity Hutu tribe, fear violence

from the Rwanda Patriotic

Front (RPF) in revenge for

the killings of at least 500,000

Rwandans, mainly Tutsis, by

Hutus earlier this year.
The RPF, which is domin-

ated by Tutsis, overthrew the government in July, trigger-ing a first refugee exodus into

Zaire and other countries.

been sent.

We hope to do a shuttle

Trucks were expected in

# RUSSIAN GAMBLING: Spectators watch a are held in secret locations attracting dozens of dog fight organised illegally in a forest place people who prefer this form of gambling (AFP next to Moscow. Officially banned, such fights photo)

## Iraq sees Western Israel warns

Fateh in N. Bank OCCUPIED JERUSALEM

(AP) — The Israeli army warned Palestinian activists allied with Yasser Arafat to lay off pro-Jordanian Palestinians in the West Bank after a series of torchings, an army official said Monday. Leaders of Fatch, Mr. Ara-

fat's mainstream faction of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), were called into Israeli military headquarters last week after an office and several cars in the West Bank town of Jenion were torched, spokes-woman Captain Hannie Jeshurun said.

Tensions between pro-Fateh and pro-Jordanian Palestinians have flared since the July 25 Israel-Jordan declaration ending war between the two countries.

The declaration, which guaranteed Jordan a say in con-trolling Jerusalem's Muslim shrines, angered many Palesti-nians, who see the future of Jerusalem as a purely Palestinian issue. Most Palestinians support the PLO, but a substantial minority still back Jordan, which 1967.

Israel and the Palestinians are due to negotiate the future of Jerusalem by 1996. The Palestinians currently control only the Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho, and are now negotiating with the Israelis ex-panding the autonomy to the rest of the West Bank.

Mr. Arafat shut down a pro-Jordanian daily newspaper in response to the declaration. Fatch activists demonstrated in the West Bank towns of Jenin, Nablus and Ramallah, burning Jordanian flags.
One leaflet circulated in Jenin

warned that "we will not tolerate the practice of policies of (outside) Arab regimes on our Palestinian soil."

Arsonists torched the office of

pro-Jordanian Jenin business-man Alam Rusheid, as well as cars belonging to other pro-Jordanians.

Capt. Jeshurun said that

prompted the Israel's military government in the West Bank to call in some Fateh leaders, most notably Samir Sabiha, the head of the Palestinian Students's Un-ion, who had called for violence

against the pro-Jordanians.

Mr. Sabiha and the others agreed to back off, she said.

"Things have calmed down a bit since then," she said. "The ways agreed to back off, she said. warning was sufficient."

## anti-Iran conspiracy German authorities recent-

NICOSIA (Agencies) — The West is whipping up a campaign against Iran over nuclear smuggling in what may be a prelude to a wave of U.S.-inspired "terrorism" and an attack on the country, an official Iraqi newspaper said Monday.

The daily Babel, run by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's son Uday, said "allu-sions to Iran" in recent reports about nuclear smuggling were aimed at "launching an air attack against that country, whose nuclear ambitions are well known, to punish it for anti-Jewish attacks in Buenos Aires."

Argentine authorities issued arrest warrants for four Iranian diplomats formerly stationed in Buenos Aires after the July 18 car bombing of a Jewish charity there, in which nearly 100 people were killed.

Babel, quoted by the offi-cial news agency INA moni-tored in Cyprus, said Iran has no need to resort to contraband to buy uranium because it can obtain it by legal means from several

ly seized several batches of contraband nuclear materials which they said could be used to make atomic bombs and came from Russia or former Soviet republics. Russia denied it was the source of the smuggled materials. Weapons-grade nuclear

materials, notably 350 grammes of plutonium 239 and several hundred grammes of lithium-6, were found on Aug. 10 in the luggage of passengers on a flight from Moscow to Munich. Babel said the media scare

about nuclear smuggling was part of a U.S. plan to "use this as a pretext to attack one country or meddle in the affairs of another." Under U.N. resolutions

ending the January-February 1991 Gulf war Iraq was forced to dismantle its nuclear weapons production faci-

President Saddam said Sunday the sanctions imposed on his country had reached their final phase and Iraq would emerge stronger than ever from the four-year

## Somali gunmen kill 7 Indian peacekeepers

MOGADISHU (Agencies) - Seven Indian U.N. peacekeepers were killed and six others were wounded in Somalia when militia attacked them with anti-aircraft guns, mortars and small arms on Monday, a U.N. military spokesman said.

The peacekeepers died when unidentified Somalis ambushed a convoy of Indian troops of the U.N. Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM) at Burleego village, between the towns of Buehakaba and Baledogle, 200 kilometres from the Somali capital.

The latest incident brings to 106 the number of U.N. peacekeepers killed in fighting in Somalia since May 1993.

U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali recommended Friday that the United Nations immediately cut its personnel in Somalia by 1,500 and that the force eventually be cut down to 15,000. U.N. military personnel in

Somalia currently number

Dr. Ghali said the force should be reduced to 15,000 before the end of Oct. or

during November.
UNOSOM military spokesman Major Richard McDonald said the attack on the Indian convoy was "an unprovoked and carefully coordinated ambush."

"Anti-aircraft weapons, mortars and small arms were used against the UNOSOM troops. Seven Indian soldiers died with six wounded — three seriously," McDonald "A number of 'technical'

vehicles have been reported as destroyed by UNOSOM. Other Somali casualties and the identity of the attackers aren't known at this time," he said.

Meanwhile, representatives of the United Nations have been expelled from Somaliland, following accusations that they had been interfering in the inter-nal affairs of self-declared republic, the president's office said in a statement.

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## Diana hits back at 'silent phone call' claims

LONDON (AFP) - Princes

Diana hit back Menday ar allegations in the weekend press that she dogged a male friend with silent telephone calls. In a rare interview, she told the Daily Mail there was "absolutely no truth" to claims that she made calls in 1992 and 1993 to London art: dealer Oliver Hoare, who reportedly acted as a gobetween the princess and Prince Charles in a bid for areconciliation — they separated in December 1992. The tabloid News Of The World reported Sunday that police had traced several calls from Princess Diana's apartments in Kensington Palace to Mr. Hoare's home for several months either side of the separation. The paper said Princess Diana herself had made the silent calls, while other papers reported that one of her staff had done it. Police at Sctoland Yard refused to comment. "What have I done to deserve this?" the princess told the paper; "I feel I am being destroyed. There is absolutely no truth in it." She said of Mr. Hoare: "He is a friend, he has belped me. They are trying to make out I was having an affair. with this man or had some sort of fatal attraction... It is simply untrue and so unfair." She warned: "Do you realise that whoever is trying to destroy me is inevitably damaging the institution of the monarchy as well?" Justifying her decision to challenge the claims by talking to the press, she said: "What should I do? Close my ears and eyes to it all?" Conservative parliamentarian Sir Teddy Taylor demanded a police inquiry into the leak about the phone calls. "Leaks of this sort are becoming normal practice," he said.

#### The Ritz bar remembers **Hemingway**

PARIS (AFP) — Fifty years

ago this Thursday Ernest Hemingway led an assault team charged with liberating one of this city's most venersble social shrines — the fabled Ritz bar in the elegant Place Vendome — from Ger-man occupation. The Ritzk Hotel had been a Hemingway haunt since the late 1920s, when as an impecunious writer he frequented the bar in the company of his more-fortunate fellow novelist. Scott Fitzgerald. Hemingway would later assert that whenever he thought of hife after death the action always took place at the Ritz in Paris. No wonder then that the 46-year-old writer, who had earned his combat-credentials in the Spanish civil war, was given the honour of securing the Ritz as Allied forces rolled into Paris. Wearing a war correspondent's uniform, wielding a sub-machine gun, Papa Hemingway took a team of French resistance fighters into the hotel. With the premises secured, he immediately ordered a round of dry martinis for his men. That very bar, now named after its most devoted patron and res-tored according to its original decor, will reopen for business this Aug. 25 after having been closed for many years. On offer will be a special vintage of Havana Club rum much favoured by Heming-way and other cocktails from

#### Smithsonian's exhibit draws 1 million in Japan

CHIBA, Japan (AP) — The. Smithsonian Institution's first overseas exhibition, described as a peek into America's attic, has attracted more than 1 million visitors ip Japan, a spokesman said. Agof Monday, about 1,011,960 people had travelled to this city 40 miles east of Tokyo to look at nuggets of American including the ruby slippers Judy Garland wore in The Wizard Of Oz and Gen. George Armstrong Custer's buckskin jacket. Organisers estimated 1.5 million people will see the exhibition before it closes on Aug. 31. It opened July 9, and admission is 2,400 yen (\$24) for adults: American Festival 94 got a high-profile start with promotional visits by former U.S. President Jimmy Curter, three former Japanese prime ministers and Japanese crown prince and princes

# Former chief spies deny Carlos lawyer's claim

PARIS (Agencies) — Former French secret service chiefs on Monday dismissed allegations that Paris in the 1980s had wanted to kill Jacques Verges, the lawyer now defending the captured "Car-los the Jackal."

Mr. Verges, who has grab-bed the headlines from his guerrilla client since Carlos was seized in Sudan and sent to Paris last week, has accused President François Mitterrand of ordering him killed and challenged the president to deny the allegations.

In further charges, French newspapers quoted reports from the former East German secret police Stasi alleging in turn that Mr. Verges could have been a Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) agent and had supplied rockets fired at a French nuclear

<del>pl</del>ant. Former gendarmerie Cantain Paul Barril said in a radio interview on Sunday that all French secret services had made the lawyer a "priority target" because of his alleged contacts with Carlos and other guerrilla groups.

contacts with the antiterrorism unit at Mr. Mitterrand's office, said the president knew about the plot. Mr. Verges accused Mr. Mitterrand of personally

ordering him killed. "The highest state level, that is to say the Elysee (presidential palace), that is to say Mitterrand had decided to have me killed," he said

"What the president of the republic ordered was a crime..., I am waiting for a denial," he said. Mr. Mitterrand's office de-

clined to comment on the charges. It said Mr. Barril never belonged to the Elysee's anti-terrorism unit and never worked at the presidential palace. Yves Bonnet, who headed

the domestic secret service DST at the time of the alleged plot, ridiculed Mr. Barril's accusations as "highly fantastic inventions from media addicts" and said Mr. Verges had never been discussed in anti-terrorism meetings. He said Mr. Verges, who in 1982 was defending Carlos' girlfriend Magadalena Kopp, a member of Germany's Red Army Faction (RAF) who was later jailed for carrying arms and explosives, had been a slight irritant but was not dangerous enough for the secret service to deal with

Pierre Marion, a former head of the counterintelligence agency DGSE in the 1980s, denied DGSE "had anything to do with an action against Verges." But he admitted he did not

have access to secret contacts between Mr. Mitterrand and the Elysee anti-terrorism Mr. Verges said last week Mr. Barril told him in 1991

the killing was not carried out because it would have been too conspicuous. Mr. Barril, who now runs

his own security firm, is no stranger to controversy either. He left the police force under a cloud of misconduct charges over the socalled "Irish of Vincennes" scandal in 1983.

Three suspected members

of the Irish Republican Army (IRA) were arrested and charged with plotting terror attacks but charges against the trio — who were de-fended by Mr. Verges were later dropped because of procedural irregularities by police and security agents.

Mr. Verges, long a con-troversial figure in the French legal world, is currently acting for Carlos, the international extremist accused of the murders of more than 80 people. He was arrested in Sudan

10 days ago after a 20-year manhunt, handed over to French agents and flown to Mr. Barril made headlines

recently when he claimed to have recovered the "black box" cockpit recorder of the plane carrying the presidents of Rwanda and Burundi which was shot down last

The aircraft's maker Dassault said what he had found

was an antenna junction box. The newspaper Le Figaro on Monday said Stasi linked Mr. Verges with the CIA

over his defence of the late former Nazi officer Klaus Barbie who was jailed for life in France for crimes against humanity.
"Unofficial and Western

media reports allege Barbie's defence is a CIA mission and link Verges with the Cla on several occasions," Le Figaro quoted a Stasi report as saving.

The newspaper Le Parisien quoted another Stasi report as saying Mr. Verges, mentioned under the codenames of "Herzog" and "Gabriel," had been in charge of supplying guerralas with several rockets fixed at a French nucear plant. The 1982 attack on the

Creys-Malville fast-breeder reactor caused little damage. Mr. Verges, branded in Stasi reports as an "operational men er" of Carlos's group, said his was a mistranslation i the German word "ope tiv" which he said meant objective."

He has de ed the accusations and do anced what he called a "Si: :: disinformation campaign."

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